DOCTOR WHO
CLASSIC COMICS
FINAL JAM-PACKED ISSUE!
The first four Doctors face a Timeslip
The Third Doctor meets The Spoilers, enters The Vortex and hears The Unheard Voice
plus
A full guide to every issue of Doctor Who Classic Comics
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CLASSIC COMICS

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THE SPOILERS 5
The Third Doctor finds himself caught in the middle of a conflict between the warlike Fars and the peaceful Rals. Written by Dick O'Neill and illustrated by Gerry Haylock, this strip was originally presented in *TV Action* Issue 123.

THE VORTEX 12
A tornado in space whisks the Third Doctor and his new friend Tom inside a vast biological computer. Written by Dennis Hooper and drawn by Gerry Haylock, the story was originally presented in *TV Action* Issues 125 – 129.

THE UNHEARD VOICE 22
A new sonic weapon is being developed by the British military and the Doctor has to stop the transmissions before Earth's wildlife goes on a destructive rampage. Written by Dick O'Neill with art by Gerry Haylock, the strip was originally presented in *TV Action* Issue 131.

DOCTOR WHO CLASSIC COMICS: THE GUIDE 25
John Ainsworth provides a complete guide to the Doctor's strip adventures as reprinted or précied within all twenty-seven issues of **DWCC**. Accompanying this are some of the many on-set photographs taken by the editorial team of *Countdown* and *TV Action* during the Jon Pertwee era, including shots from *Frontier in Space*, *The Daemons* and *The Mind of Evil*.

VWORP VWORP 34
The final instalment of John Ainsworth's exhaustive study covers the end of the Jon Pertwee years in *TV Comic*.

K9'S CONUNDRUMS 40
A final mindbender devised by K9 and the ever-helpful Scott Montgomery.

TIMESLIP 44
The Fourth Doctor and K9 find themselves being flung back through time – with devastating results! A complete story by Paul Neary and Dez Skinn with new colours by Paul Vyse. Originally featured in **Doctor Who Weekly** Issues 17 & 18.

FRONT COVER by Colin Howard
A variation on a familiar concept to help celebrate thirty years of adventures for the Doctor – the world's longest running comic strip based on a television series.

Where did the Doctor's greatest battles occur? The ice tombs of the planet Telos, the radioactive wastelands of Skaro and the legendary caves of Androzani bore witness to some epic confrontations between good and evil. We were sold short. Whether the classics of television *Doctor Who* were produced in television studios or filmed on location, the medium rarely, if ever, did the message justice.

The planets Trodos, Minot, and Gyros are not as well remembered by *Doctor Who* enthusiasts. However, one thing we've hopefully proved over the last twenty-seven issues of Doctor Who Classic Comics is that the strip adventures of the good Doctor have seen the most ambitious, and often the most imaginative, storytelling in *Doctor Who*.

And now, after countless flamboyant flourishes from John Canning and painstaking panels from Gerry Haylock, this is the final issue of Doctor Who Classic Comics. With the finest of the *Doctor Who* strip's pre-Marvel heritage reprinted, our work is largely done. Other projects beckon for us, but hopefully the first thirty years of *Doctor Who* strips won't be left to languish in the same vaults, attics and cupboards where they resided before we dusted them off for your re-appraisal.

Hopefully, our work ranks with the best of the comics the original strips were taken from. If that's the case, then we'll all have enjoyed being a part of something very worthwhile.

Marcus

WEEK ENDING JUNE 23rd 1973
Issue No. 123
TV ACTION
THIS WEEK'S BIG STORY
DR. WHO
THE SPOILERS

Next Week...

Great new complete PERSUADERS story – 'Who is Sylvia?'

PLUS a fantastic pop actionpic of The Jackson Five

And regular TV ACTION favourites... Cannon. Mission Impossible. Dad's Army and lots more!

THE SPOILERS

THE END OF THE RAFS IS AT HAND!

BUT FOR ALL HIS PUBLIC RAVINGS, SOTON THE LEADER IS WORRIED...
OUR MINERAL RESOURCES ARE SPENT, OUR PLANET IS SPOILT. SOON THE PEOPLE WILL REVOLT... THE INVASION OF RAFFAR IS MY ONLY CHANCE.
VENIN!

THE EVIL LEADER CONSULTS HIS CHIEF SCIENTIST...
WHERE IS YOUR POWER TO BREAK THE RAFFARIAN DEFENCES, VENIN?
WE HAVE NONE, MY LORD. BUT SUPPOSING WE CALLED ON THE HELP OF OTHERS?

DON'T SPEAK IN RIDDLES! EXPLAIN!
WE KNOW THAT SUPER MINDS EXIST IN THE HEAVENS. SUPPOSING WE COULD DUPE THEM INTO ASSISTING US?

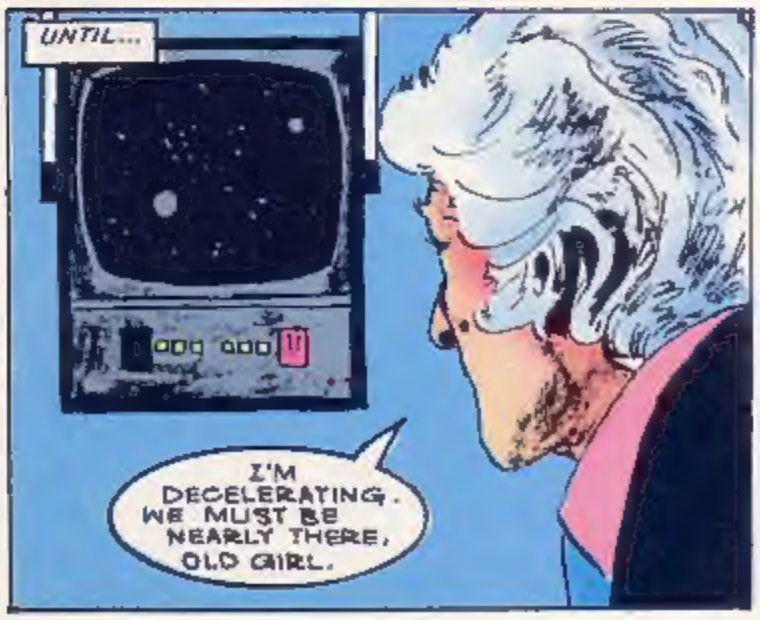
THREE FARRAFIAN DAYS LATER, ON THE PLANET OF THE TIME LORDS...
THIS DOESN'T SEEM CREDIBLE...
EVEN SO, LET US FIRST INVESTIGATE.

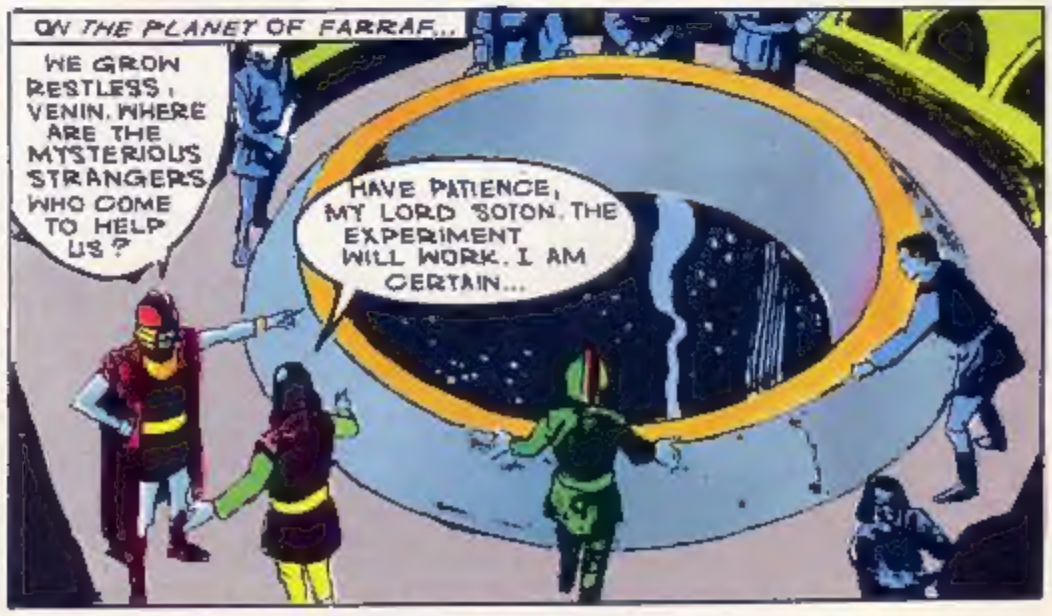
AND ON EARTH...
NOW WHERE'S THAT WRETCHED CAPACITOR? AH...

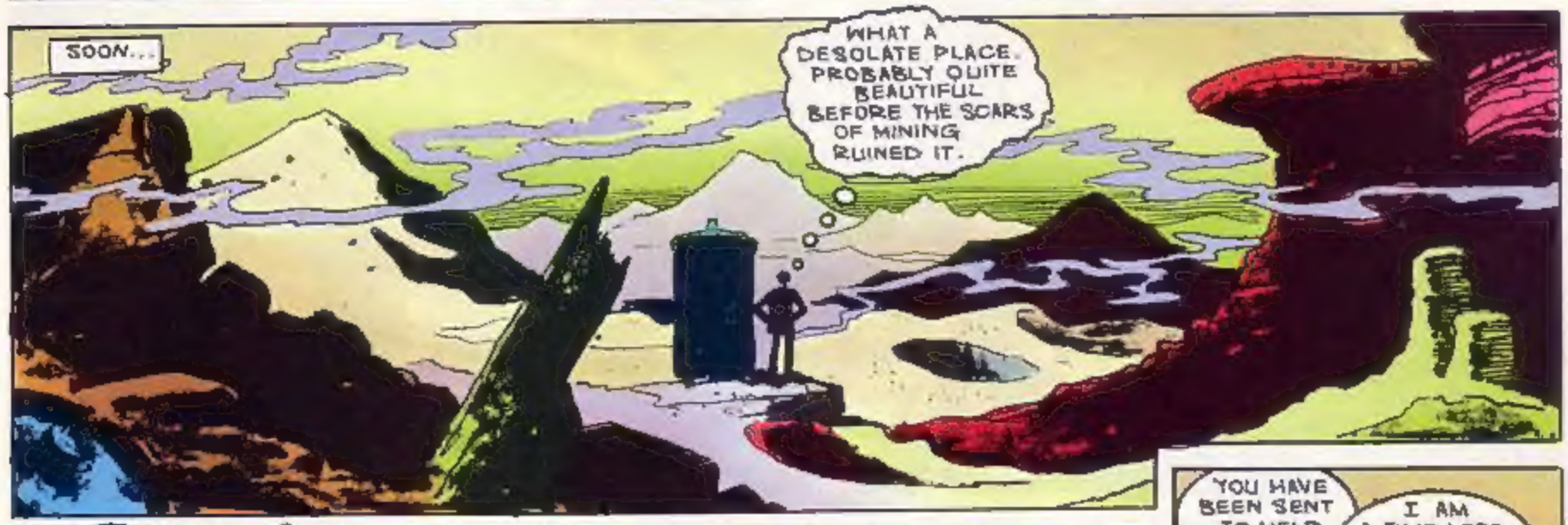
SUDDENLY...
WHAT THE...?

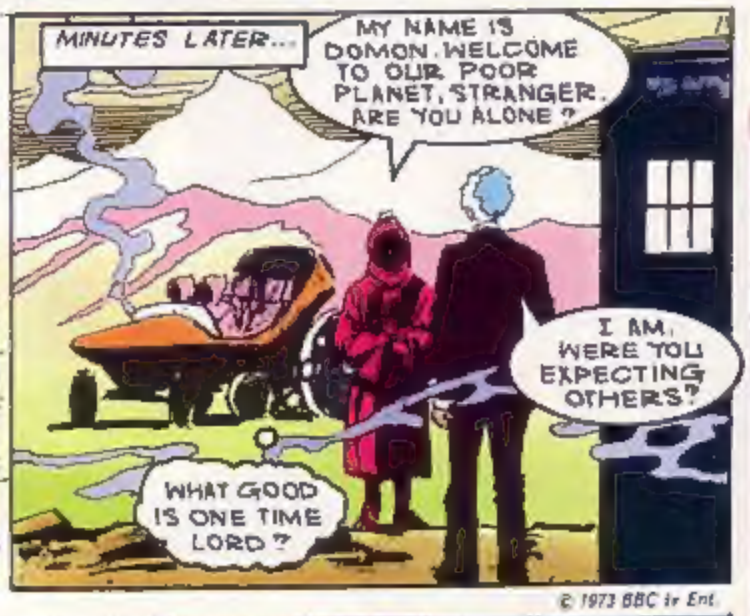
SO THE TIME LORDS HAVE A MISSION FOR ME...

THE TARDIS DRIFTS THROUGH SPACE AND TIME, ON A COURSE SELECTED BY OTHERS...


UNTIL...
I'M DECELERATING. WE MUST BE NEARLY THERE, OLD GIRL.


ON THE PLANET OF FARRAF...
WE GROW RESTLESS, VENIN. WHERE ARE THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGERS WHO COME TO HELP US?
HAVE PATIENCE, MY LORD SOTON. THE EXPERIMENT WILL WORK. I AM CERTAIN...





● ART: GERRY HAYLOCK

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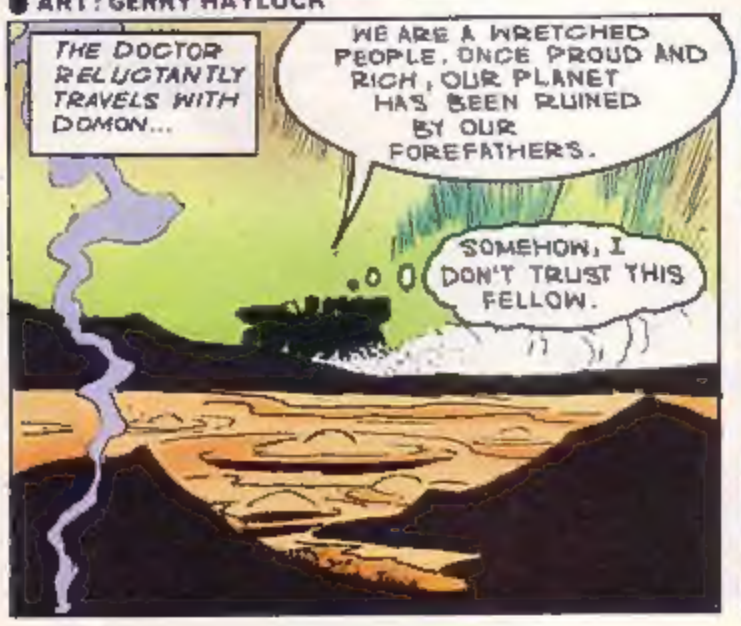
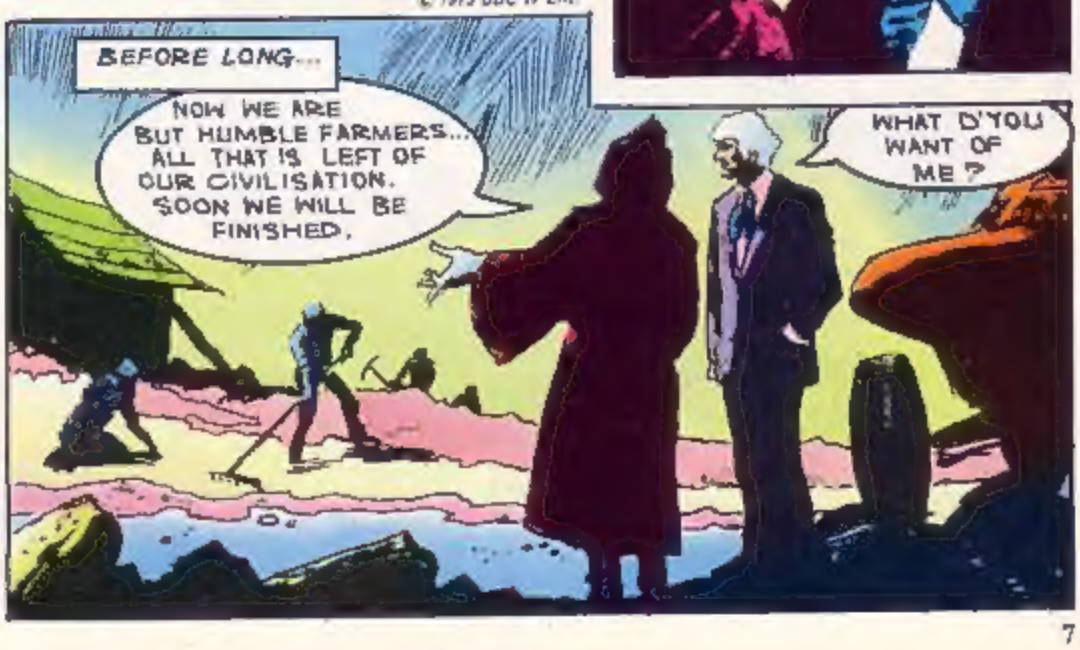
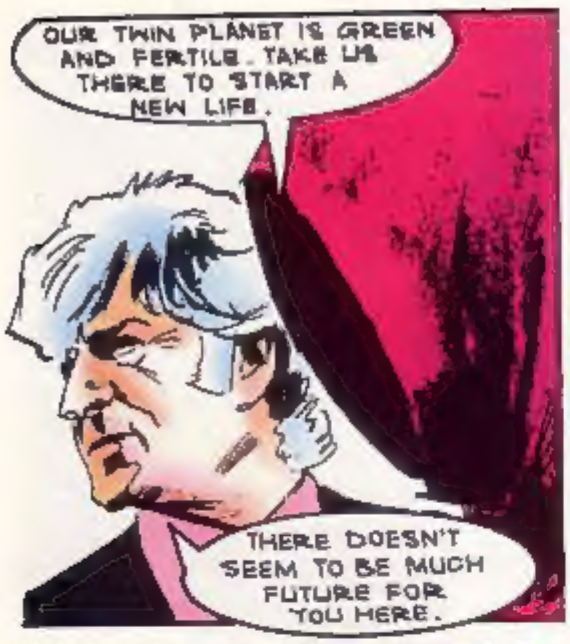





OUR TWIN PLANET IS GREEN AND FERTILE. TAKE US THERE TO START A NEW LIFE.
THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH FUTURE FOR YOU HERE.

THE DAY GROWS LONG. LET US REST. ON THE MORROW WE WILL MOVE ON TO OUR NEW LIFE.
I MUST FIND OUT MORE BEFORE I AGREE.

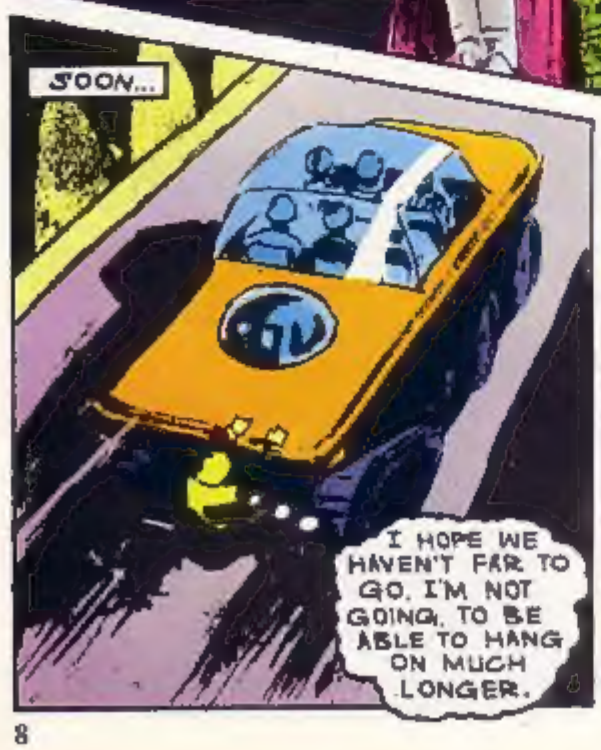
THAT NIGHT...
TIME FOR ME TO BEGIN A LITTLE PRIVATE INVESTIGATION.

SO I'M TO BE TREATED AS A PRISONER. THE LOOK LOOKS FAIRLY PRIMITIVE.

AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...
ALL CLEAR...

IN AN ADJACENT ROOM...
IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR US TO OPERATE THE ALIEN'S SPACE VEHICLE HE WILL DIE. COME!

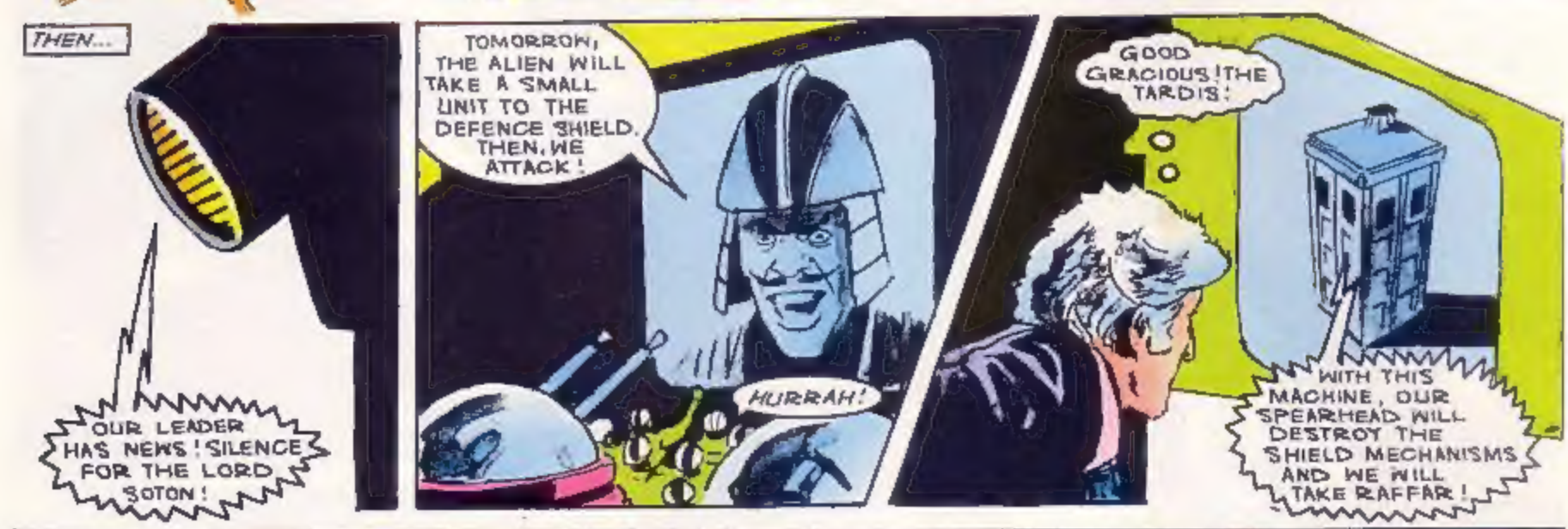
STEALTHILY, THE DOCTOR FOLLOWS THE TREACHEROUS FARRAFIAN LEADER...
YOU STAY HERE AND GUARD THE ALIEN.
I OBEY, LORD SOTON.
AS THE TRANSPORT ACCELERATES AWAY...

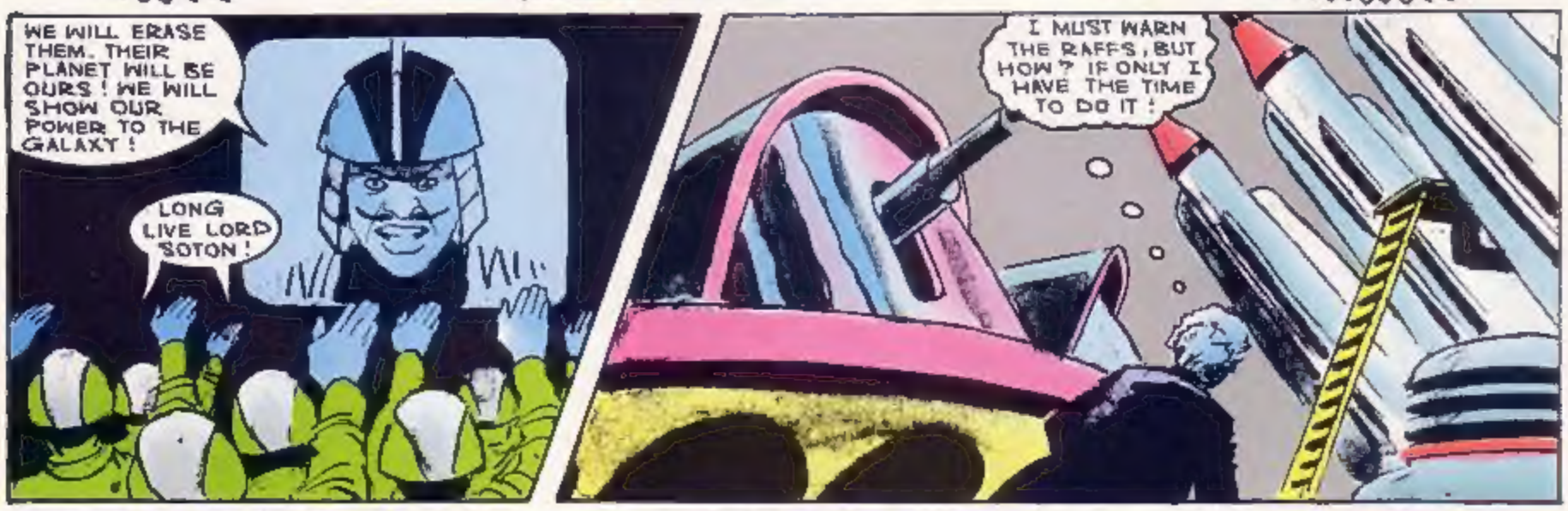

SOON...
I HOPE WE HAVEN'T FAR TO GO. I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO HANG ON MUCH LONGER.

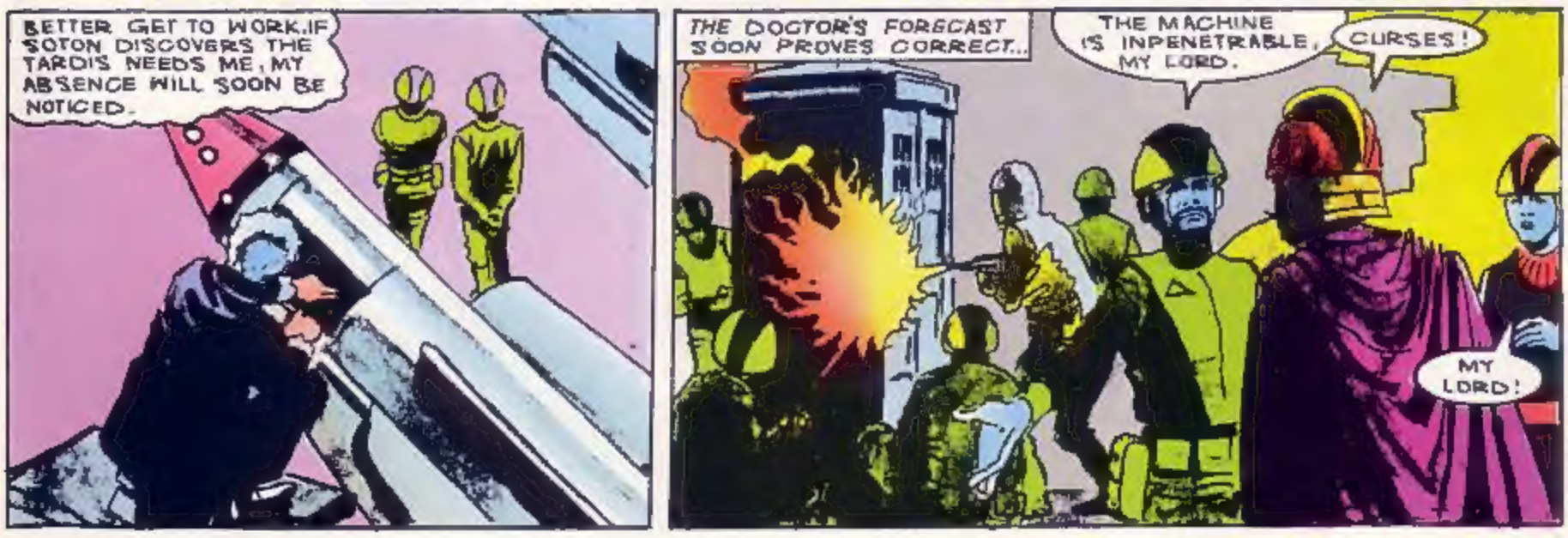
IT SEEMS WE'RE HEADING UNDERGROUND.

TIME TO BALE OUT. IT'S GETTING LIGHT AHEAD.

OUCH!
CONTINUING ON FOOT, THE DOCTOR IS SOON FACED WITH AN AWESOME SIGHT...
GOOD GRIEF! AN UNDERGROUND CITY—AND NOT A VERY PEACEFUL ONE.

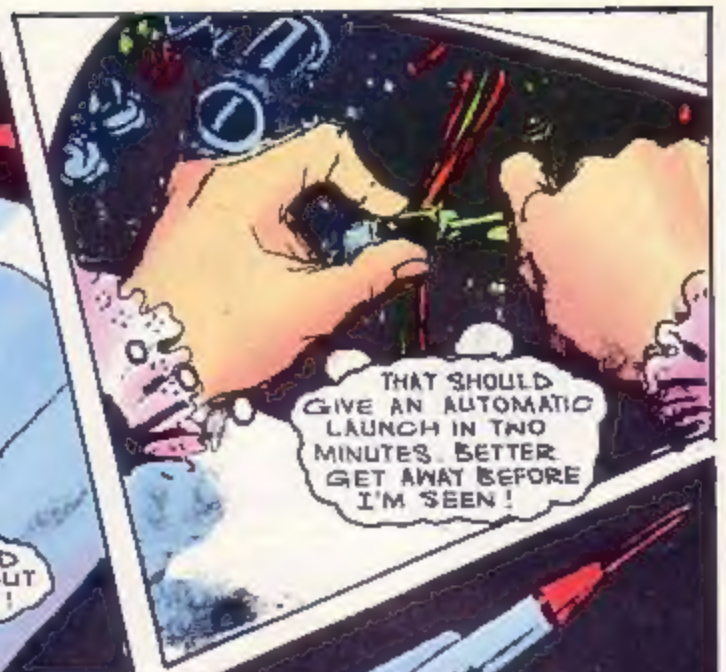

THEN...
OUR LEADER HAS NEWS! SILENCE FOR THE LORD SOTON!
TOMORROW, THE ALIEN WILL TAKE A SMALL UNIT TO THE DEFENCE SHIELD. THEN, WE ATTACK!
HURRAH!
GOOD GRACIOUS! THE TARDIS!
WITH THIS MACHINE, OUR SPEARHEAD WILL DESTROY THE SHIELD MECHANISMS AND WE WILL TAKE RAFFAR!


WE WILL ERASE THEM. THEIR PLANET WILL BE OURS! WE WILL SHOW OUR POWER TO THE GALAXY!
LONG LIVE LORD SOTON!
I MUST WARN THE RAFFS, BUT HOW? IF ONLY I HAVE THE TIME TO DO IT!


BETTER GET TO WORK. IF SOTON DISCOVERS THE TARDIS NEEDS ME, MY ABSENCE WILL SOON BE NOTICED.
THE DOCTOR'S FORECAST SOON PROVES CORRECT...
THE MACHINE IS INPENETRABLE, MY LORD.
CURSES!
MY LORD!

THE ALIEN IS MISSING.
YOU WILL PAY FOR THIS! FIND HIM!

MEANWHILE, IN THE MISSILE BATTERY...
EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY! AN ALIEN IS FREE IN THE CITY!
SHOULD JUST ABOUT MAKE IT!


THAT SHOULD GIVE AN AUTOMATIC LAUNCH IN TWO MINUTES. BETTER GET AWAY BEFORE I'M SEEN!

THE DOCTOR ONLY JUST GETS CLEAR, WHEN...
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME, BARBARIAN!
NOT SO, ALIEN. THE LORD SOTON WILL REWARD US WELL FOR THIS.

THEN SUDDENLY...

NOT LONG AFTER...
WHO TRIGGERED THAT MISSILE?
A MALFUNCTIONING CIRCUIT— WE TRIED TO DESTROY IT BUT IT WOULDN'T RESPOND.

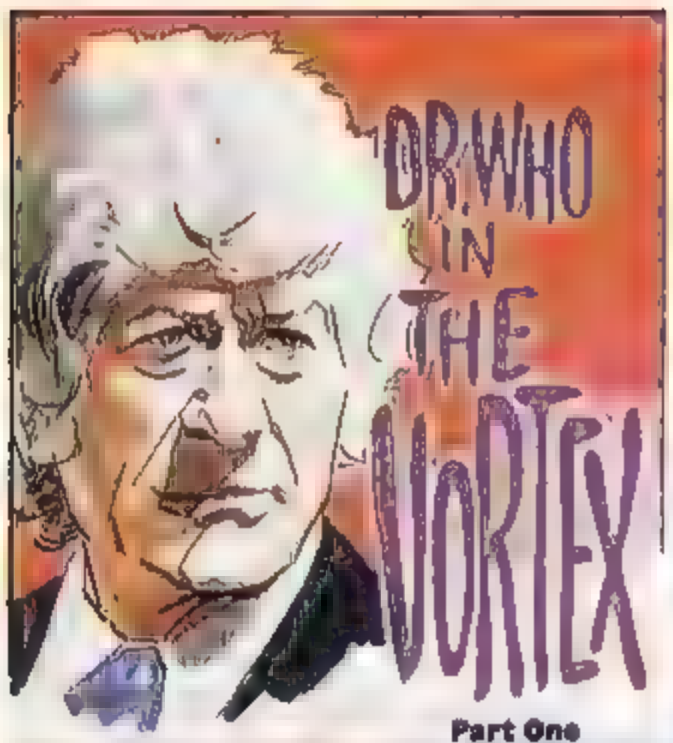
IT WILL MEET IT'S END ON THE RAFFARIAN SHIELD. WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT, WE HAVE THE ALIEN.

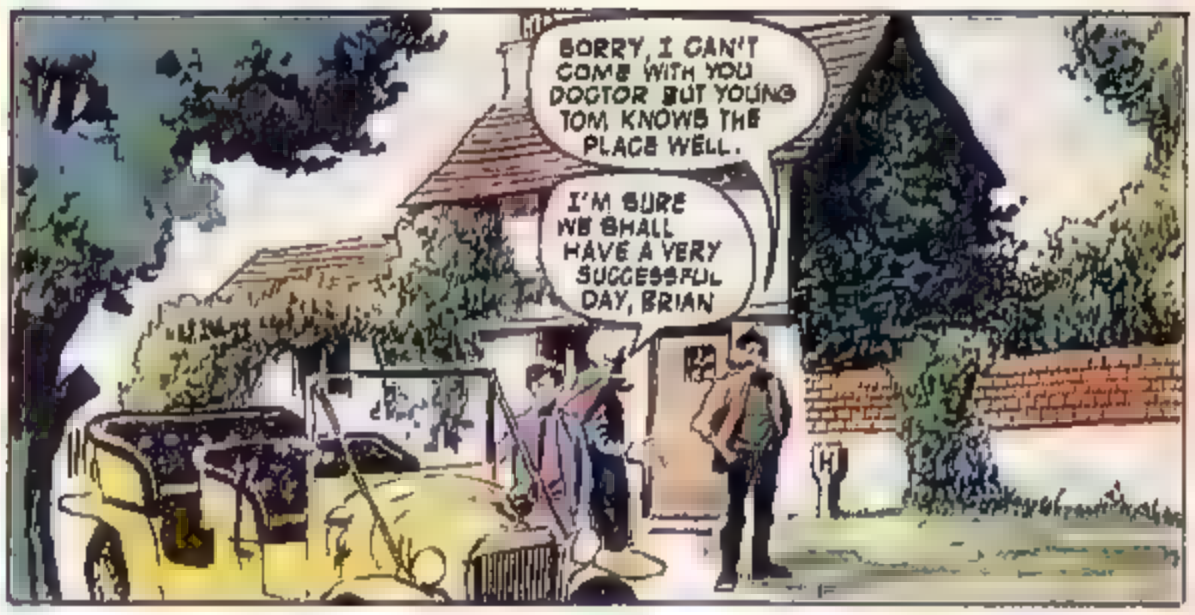
NO MORE TRICKS, FRIEND. YOU WILL DO AS I SAY, OR I WILL TORTURE YOU INTO SUBMISSION.
VERY WELL. I AM A MAN OF LOGIC, YOUR PETTY WAR IS OF NO CONCERN TO ME.

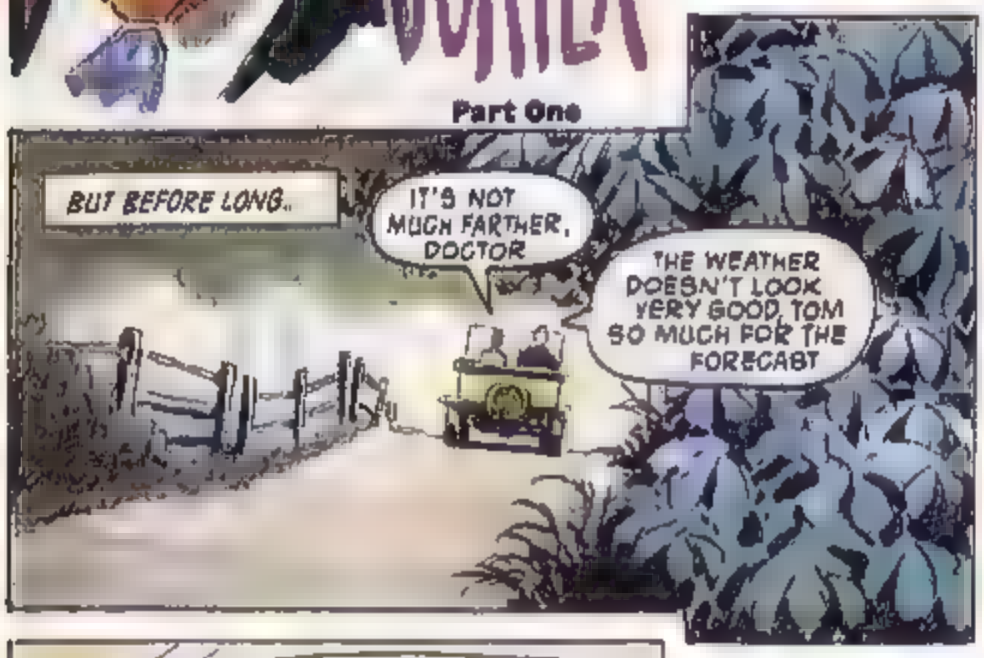
OUT IN SPACE, WHEN THE FARRAFIAN MISSILE APPROACHES THE FORCE FIELD...
BLEEP, BIP, BLEEP, BLEEP BLEEP BIP...

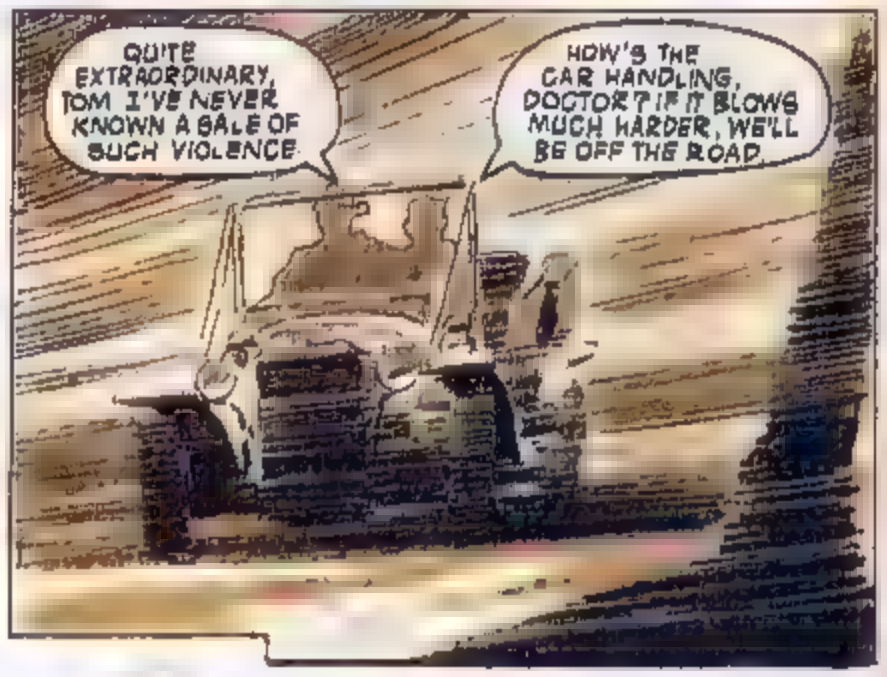
THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
LAUNCH THE ATTACK AT THE AGREED TIME. HAVE NO FEAR, THE RAFFARIAN DEFENCE SHIELD WILL BE DESTROYED!
NOT LONG AFTER...
WE HAVE JUST PASSED THROUGH THE SHIELD, SOTON.
EXCELLENT. YOU HAVE DONE WELL, DOCTOR.
WE HAVE ARRIVED. YOU ARE FREE TO LEAVE.
YOU ARE COMING TOO, DOCTOR.
ART: GERRY HAYLOCK
OUTSIDE...
A TRAP! BACK TO THE TARDIS!
NOT THIS TIME, SOTON, YOUR DAYS ARE FINISHED!
THAT IS TRUE, MY FRIEND.
WHEN THE FARRAFIAN INVASION IS LAUNCHED...
TURN BACK— SOTON HAS FAILED US!
LATER...
YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ELECTRONICS MUST BE CONSIDERABLE TO MANUFACTURE THAT DIGITAL MESSAGE.
THANK HEAVENS YOU HAD THE KNOWLEDGE TO TRANSLATE IT.
WITHOUT A LEADER, I SUPPOSE THE FARS WILL DESTROY EACH OTHER.
UNTIL THEY LEARN HUMILITY, WE CAN DO NOTHING. BUT ONE DAY WE WILL OFFER THEM OUR HELP AND FRIENDSHIP.

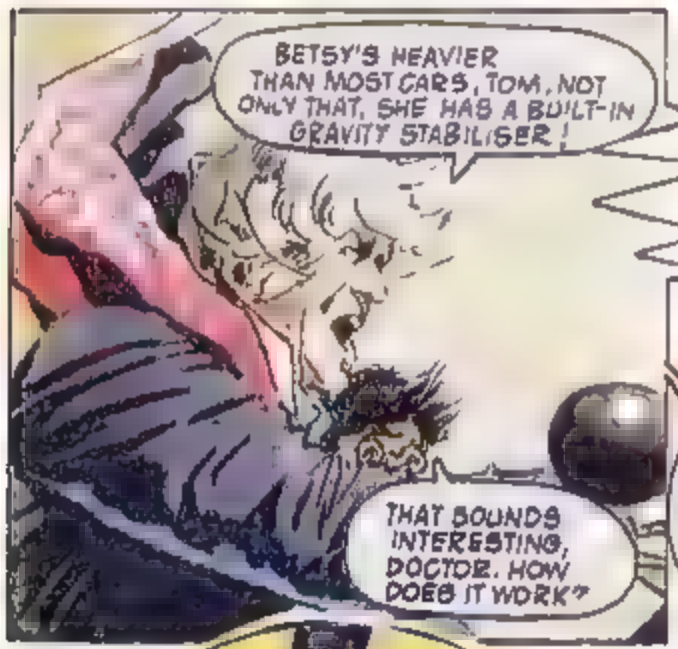
THE END.

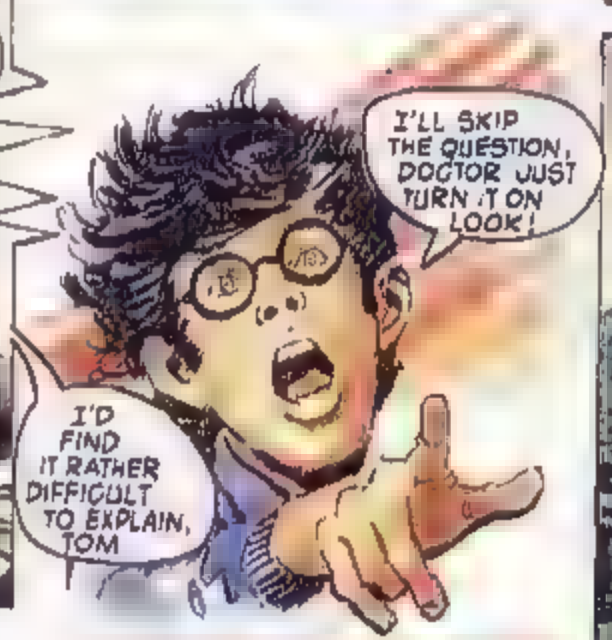

DR.WHO IN THE VORTEX
Part One


SORRY, I CAN'T COME WITH YOU DOCTOR BUT YOUNG TOM KNOWS THE PLACE WELL.
I'M SURE WE SHALL HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL DAY, BRIAN

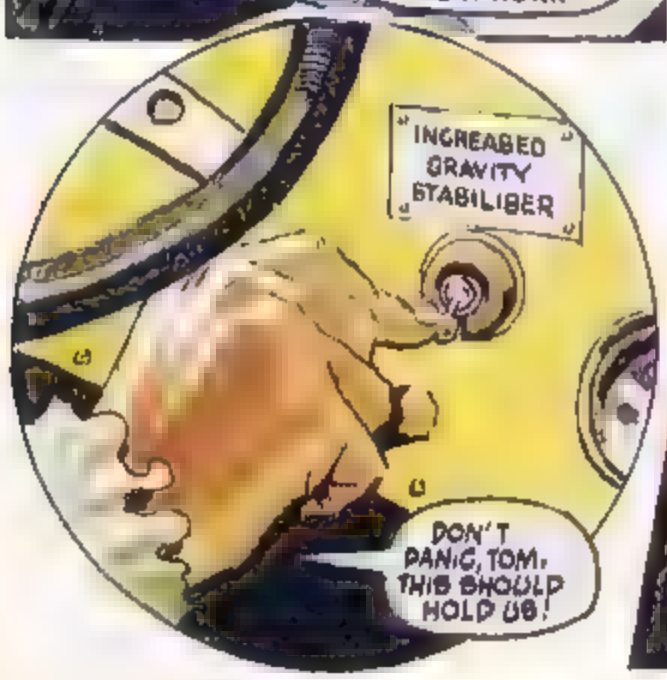

BUT BEFORE LONG..
IT'S NOT MUCH FARTHER, DOCTOR
THE WEATHER DOESN'T LOOK VERY GOOD, TOM SO MUCH FOR THE FORECAST

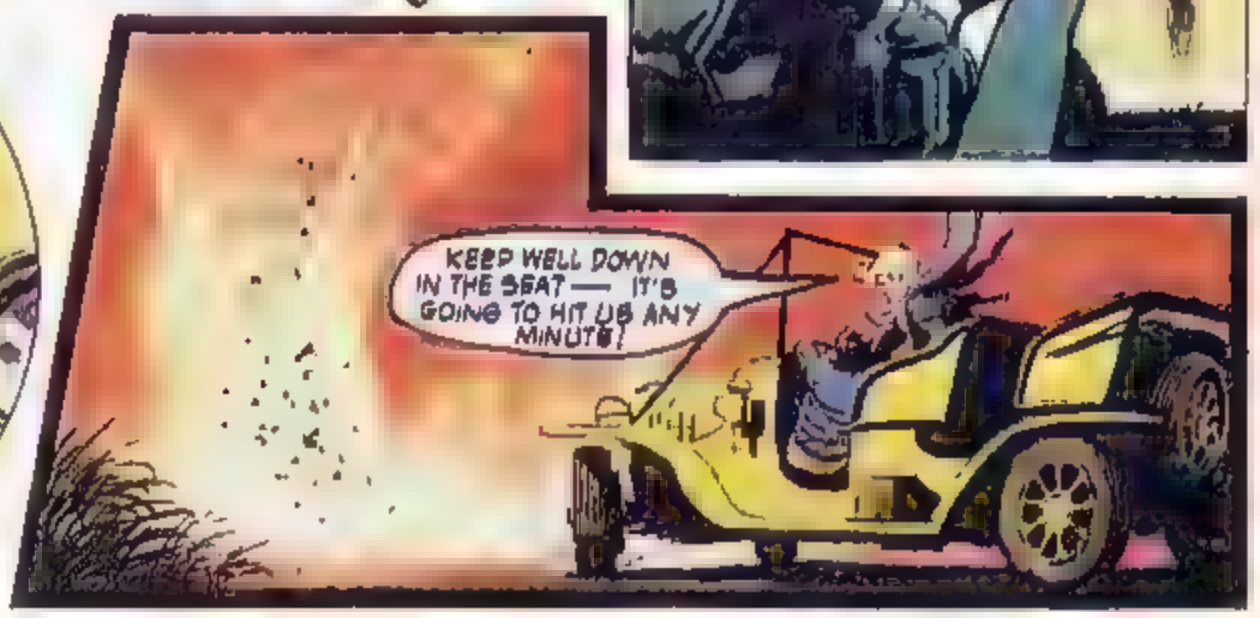

QUITE EXTRAORDINARY, TOM I'VE NEVER KNOWN A SALE OF SUCH VIOLENCE
HOW'S THE CAR HANDLING, DOCTOR? IF IT BLOWS MUCH HARDER, WE'LL BE OFF THE ROAD


BETSY'S HEAVIER THAN MOST CARS, TOM, NOT ONLY THAT, SHE HAS A BUILT-IN GRAVITY STABILISER!
THAT SOUNDS INTERESTING, DOCTOR. HOW DOES IT WORK?

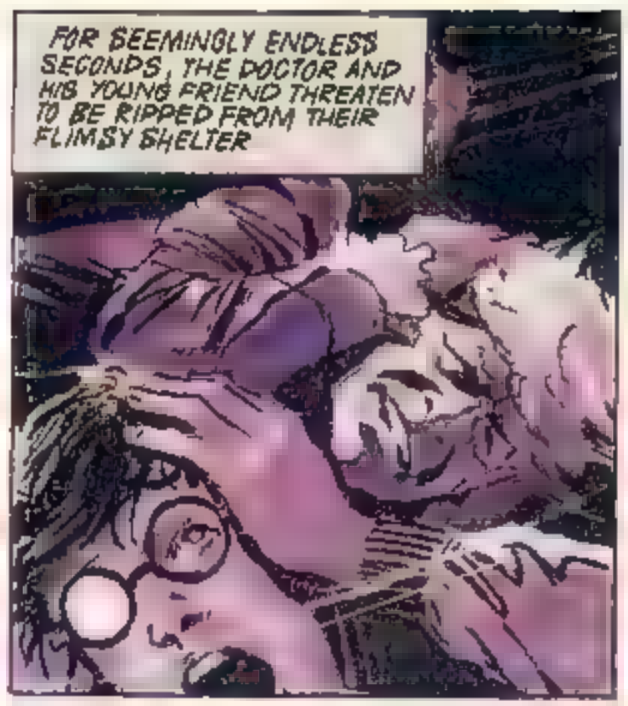

I'LL SKIP THE QUESTION, DOCTOR JUST TURN IT ON LOOK!
I'D FIND IT RATHER DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN, TOM

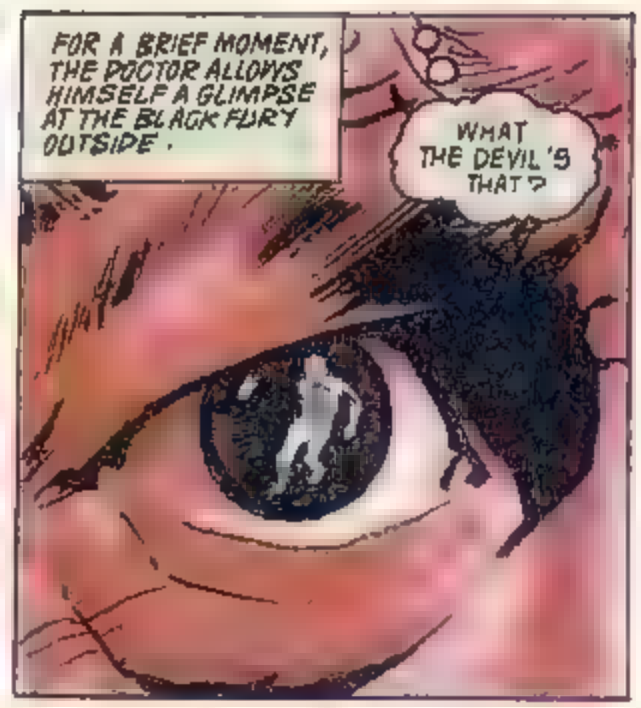
GOOD GRIEF! IT'S COMING STRAIGHT FOR US!

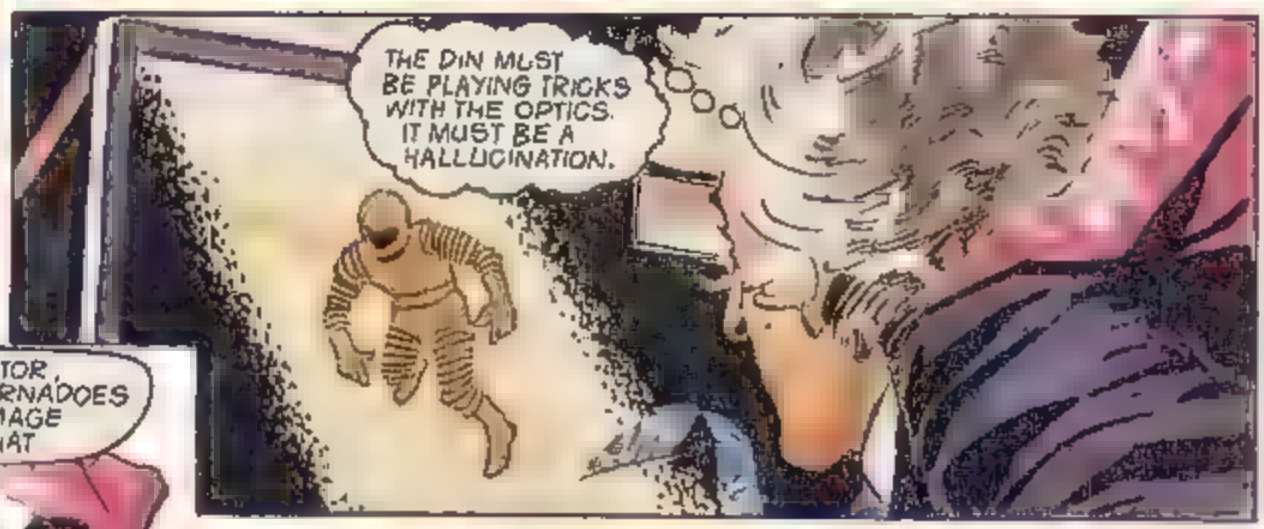

"INCREASED GRAVITY STABILISER"
DON'T PANIC, TOM. THIS SHOULD HOLD US!

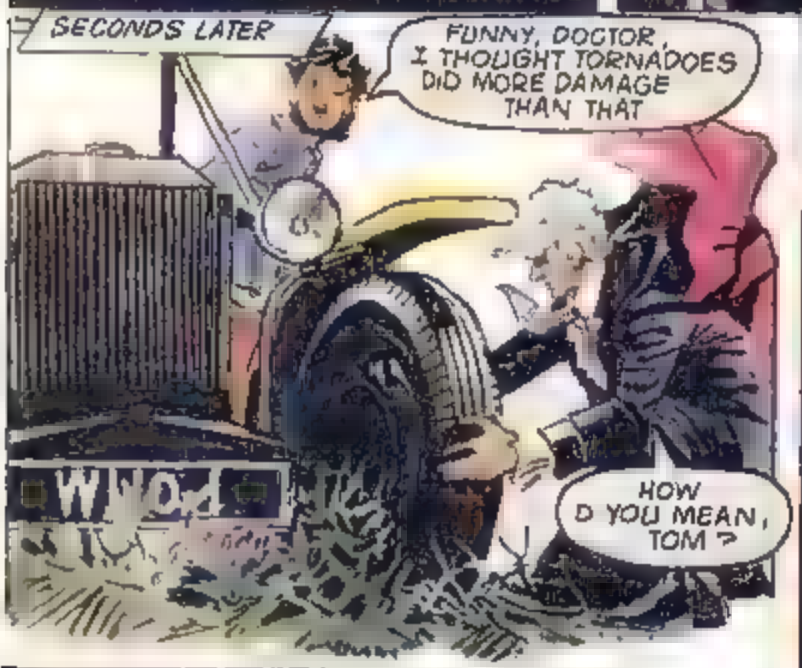

KEEP WELL DOWN IN THE SEAT — IT'S GOING TO HIT US ANY MINUTE!

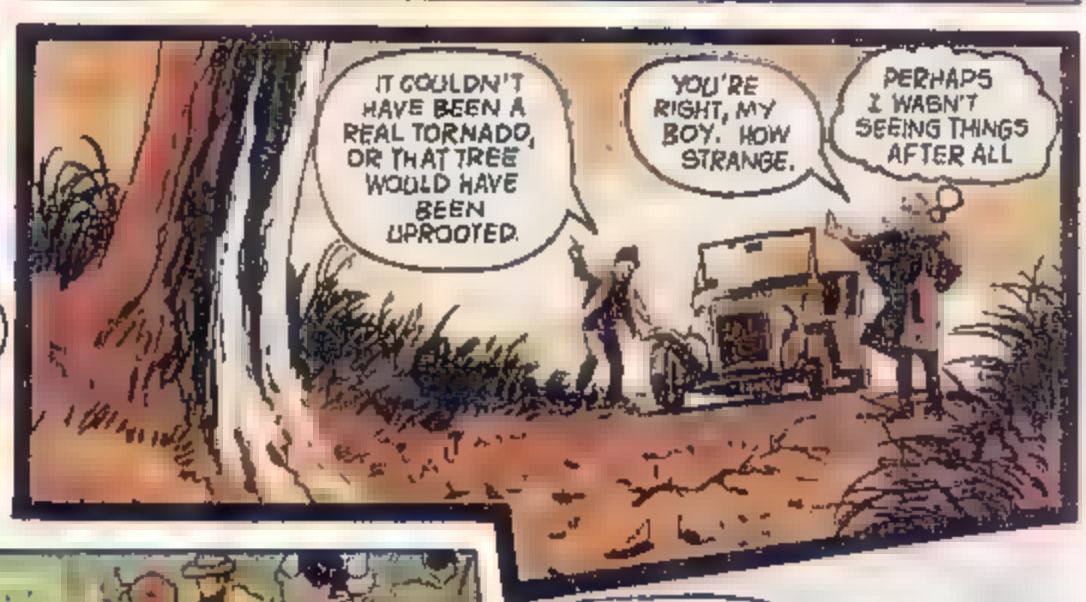
A DEAFENING FURY, EQUAL TO A THOUSAND ROARING JET ENGINES, ENVELOPS THE CAR

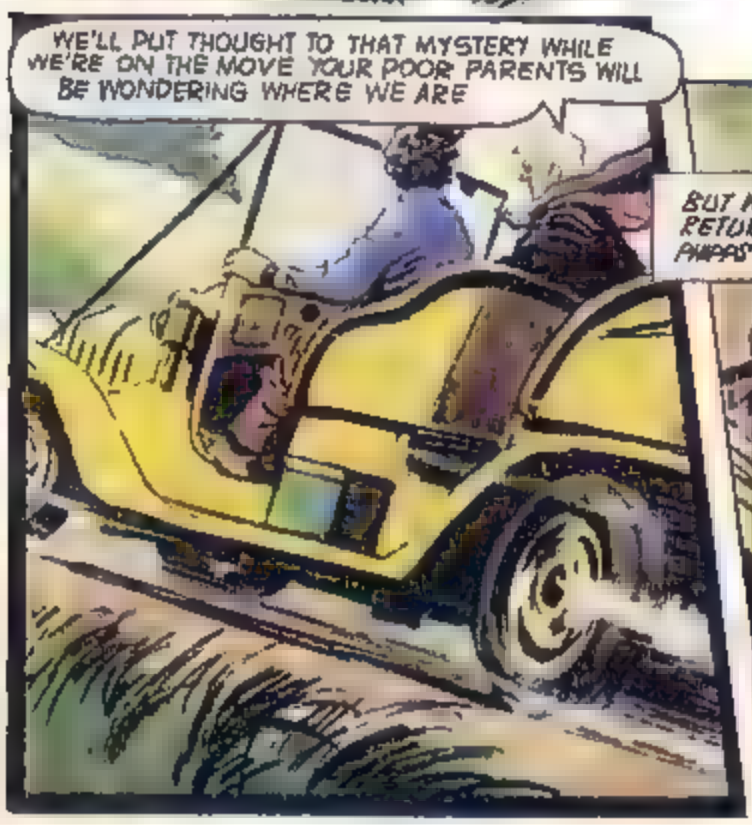

FOR SEEMINGLY ENDLESS SECONDS, THE DOCTOR AND HIS YOUNG FRIEND THREATEN TO BE RIPPED FROM THEIR FLIMSY SHELTER

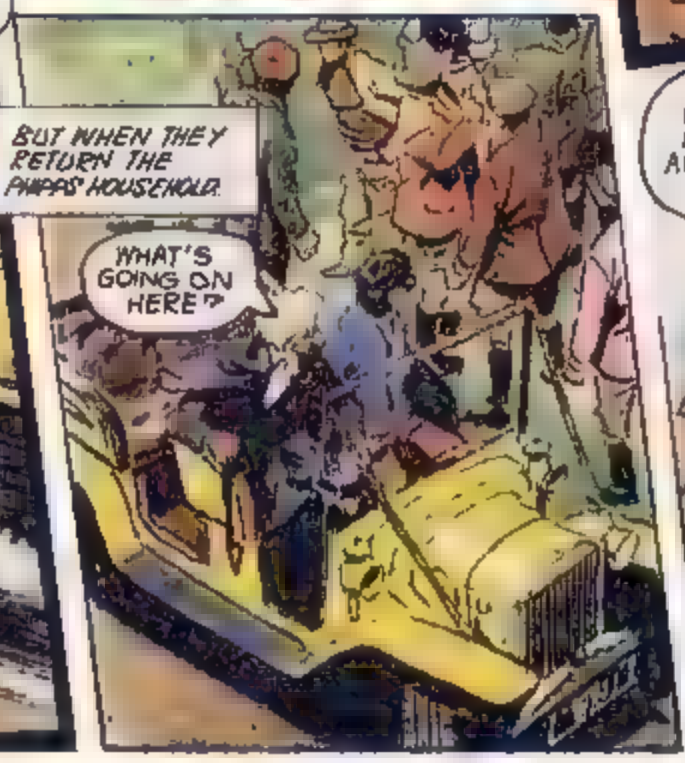

FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, THE DOCTOR ALLOWS HIMSELF A GLIMPSE AT THE BLACK FURY OUTSIDE.
WHAT THE DEVIL'S THAT?


THE DIN MUST BE PLAYING TRICKS WITH THE OPTICS. IT MUST BE A HALLUCINATION.

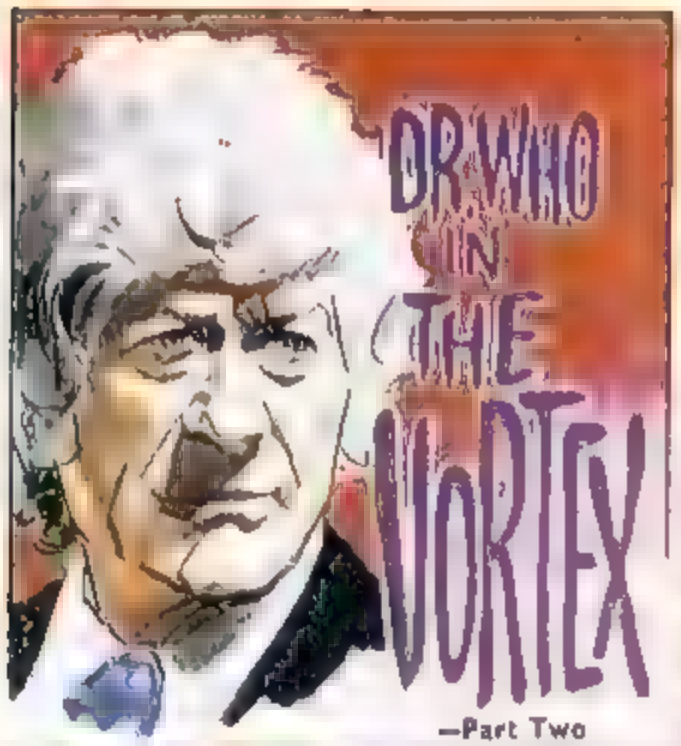

SECONDS LATER
FUNNY, DOCTOR, I THOUGHT TORNADOES DID MORE DAMAGE THAN THAT
HOW D YOU MEAN, TOM?


IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A REAL TORNADO, OR THAT TREE WOULD HAVE BEEN UPROOTED.
YOU'RE RIGHT, MY BOY. HOW STRANGE.
PERHAPS I WASN'T SEEING THINGS AFTER ALL

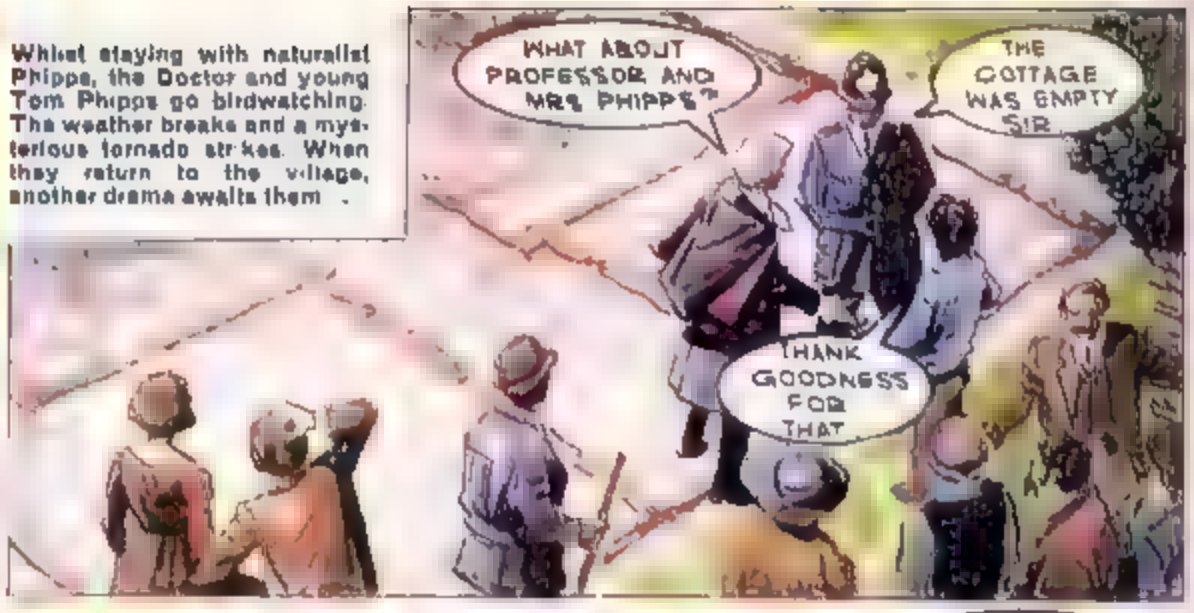

WE'LL PUT THOUGHT TO THAT MYSTERY WHILE WE'RE ON THE MOVE. YOUR POOR PARENTS WILL BE WONDERING WHERE WE ARE


BUT WHEN THEY RETURN THE PIPPS' HOUSEHOLD.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

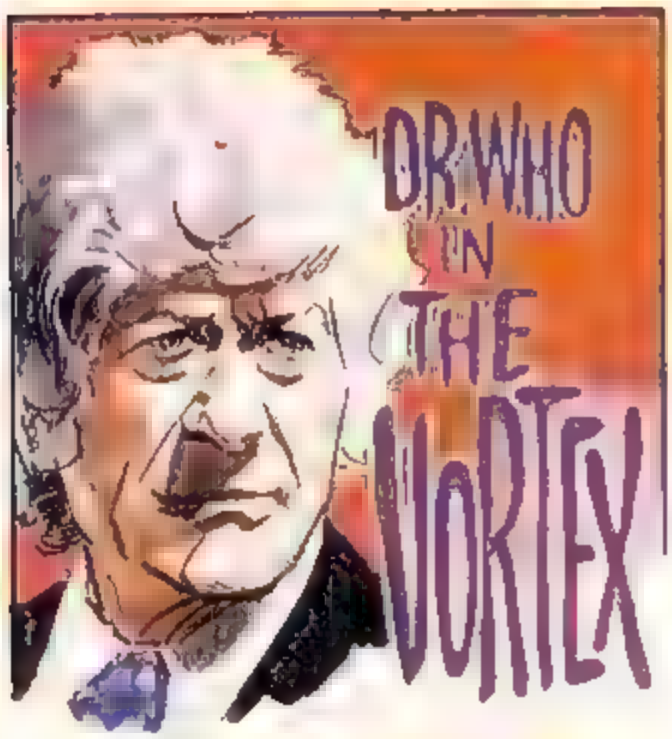
NOT A BRICK OR A PIECE OF MORTAR LEFT ALL GONE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR



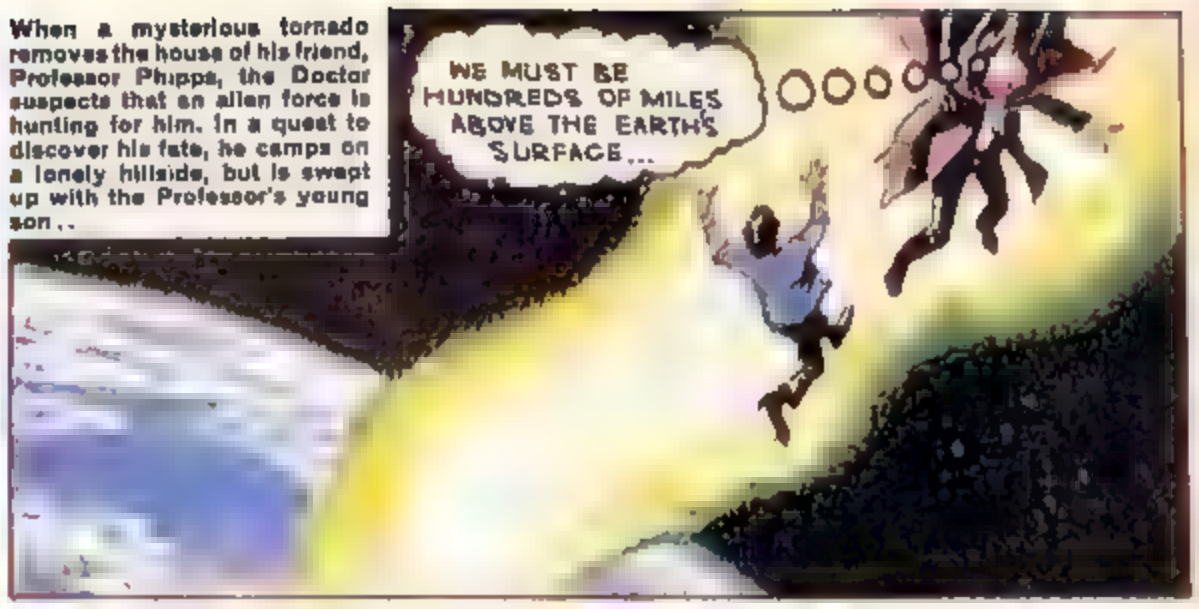
Whilst staying with naturalist Phipps, the Doctor and young Tom Phipps go birdwatching. The weather breaks and a mysterious tornado strikes. When they return to the village, another drama awaits them.

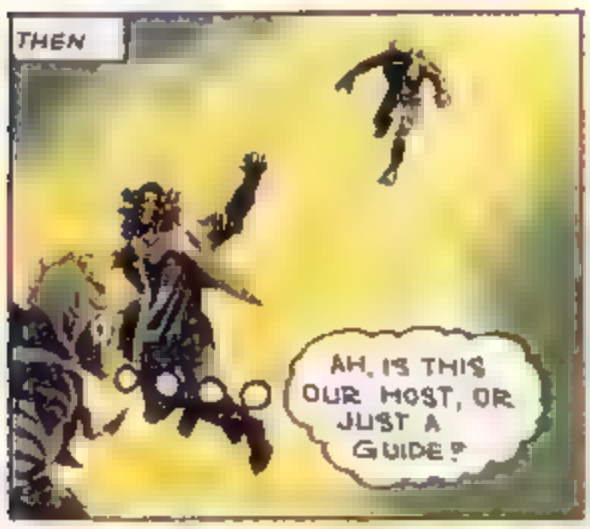


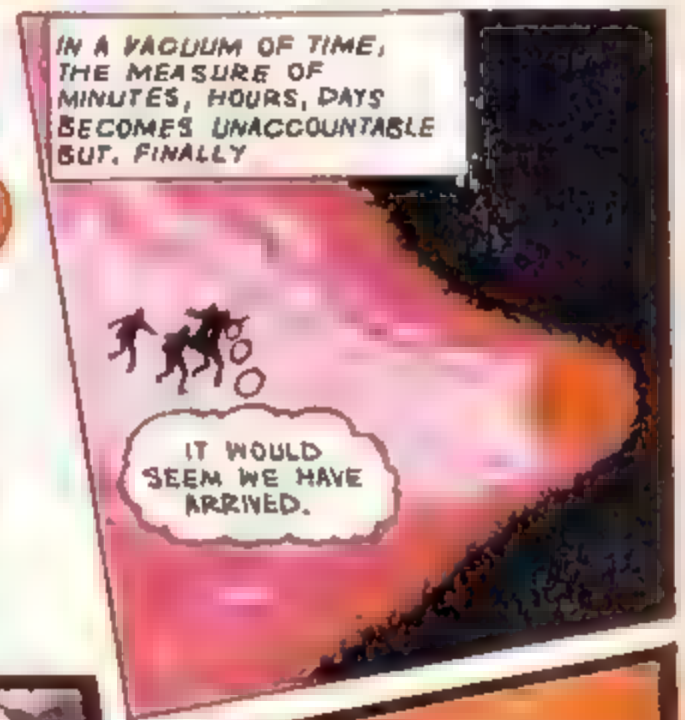
THE NIGHT IS WARM AND TOM PHIPPS CAN'T SLEEP. FINALLY, IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING
I MUST SEE IF THE DOCTOR'S ALL RIGHT
HALF-AN-HOUR LATER
DOCTOR! THANK GOODNESS
TOM, WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT LOOKS AS IF YOUR THEORY WASN'T RIGHT DOCTOR
I STILL THINK IT'S CORRECT SO DRINK THIS AND BE OFF HOME
AS THE COLD LIGHT OF DAWN BEGINS TO FILL THE SKY
NOW HURRY UP, TOM I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SAFE HERE
OH ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR
THEN
LOOK!
EXPLODING METEORITES!
RUN FOR IT, MY BOY, IT'S ALMOST ON US!
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU TO FACE IT ALONE DOCTOR
DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, YOU YOUNG FOOL!
BUT THE BOY HAS LEFT IT TOO LATE
I CAN'T MOVE

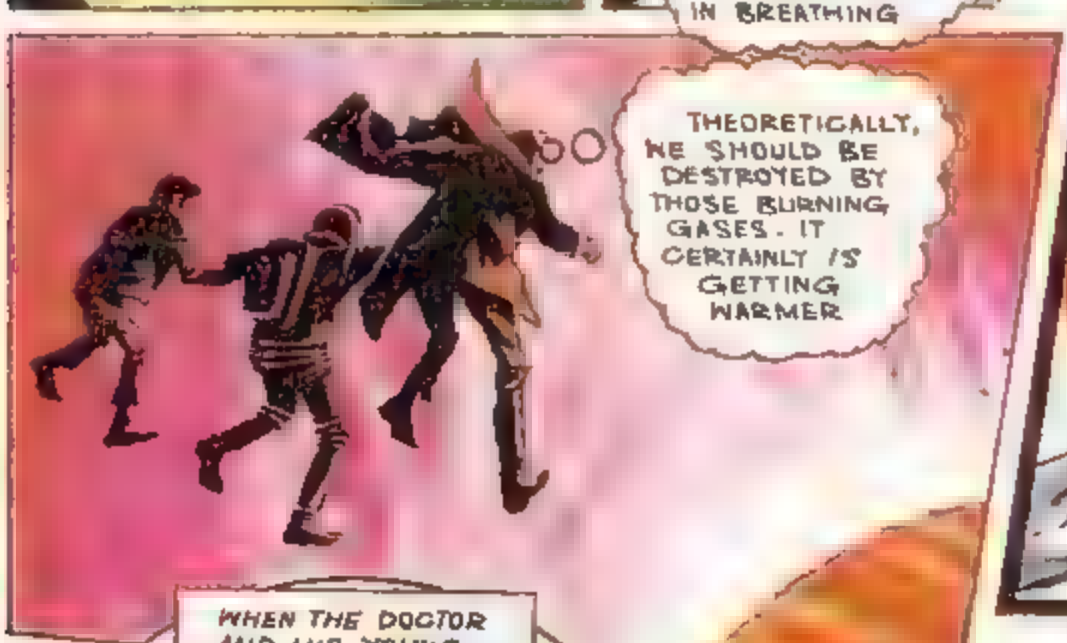


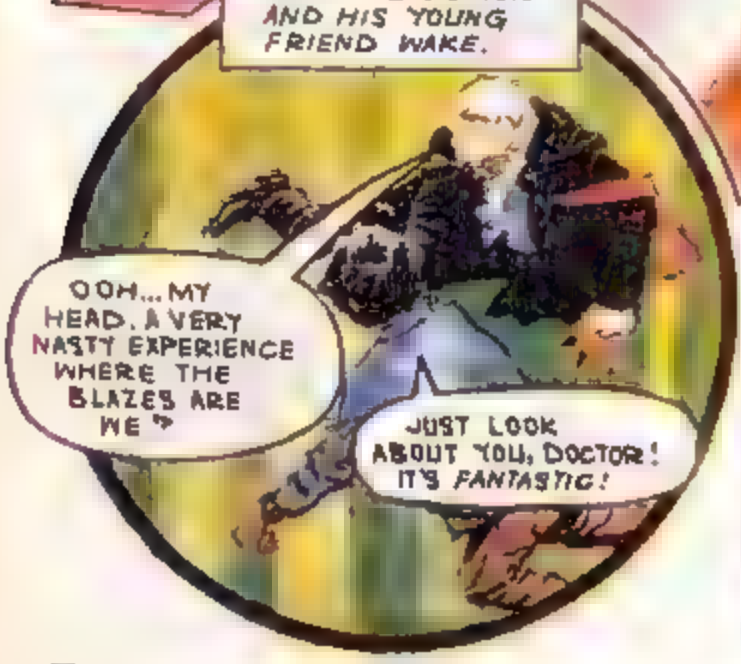
When a mysterious tornado removes the house of his friend, Professor Phipps, the Doctor suspects that an alien force is hunting for him. In a quest to discover his fate, he camps on a lonely hillside, but is swept up with the Professor's young son...

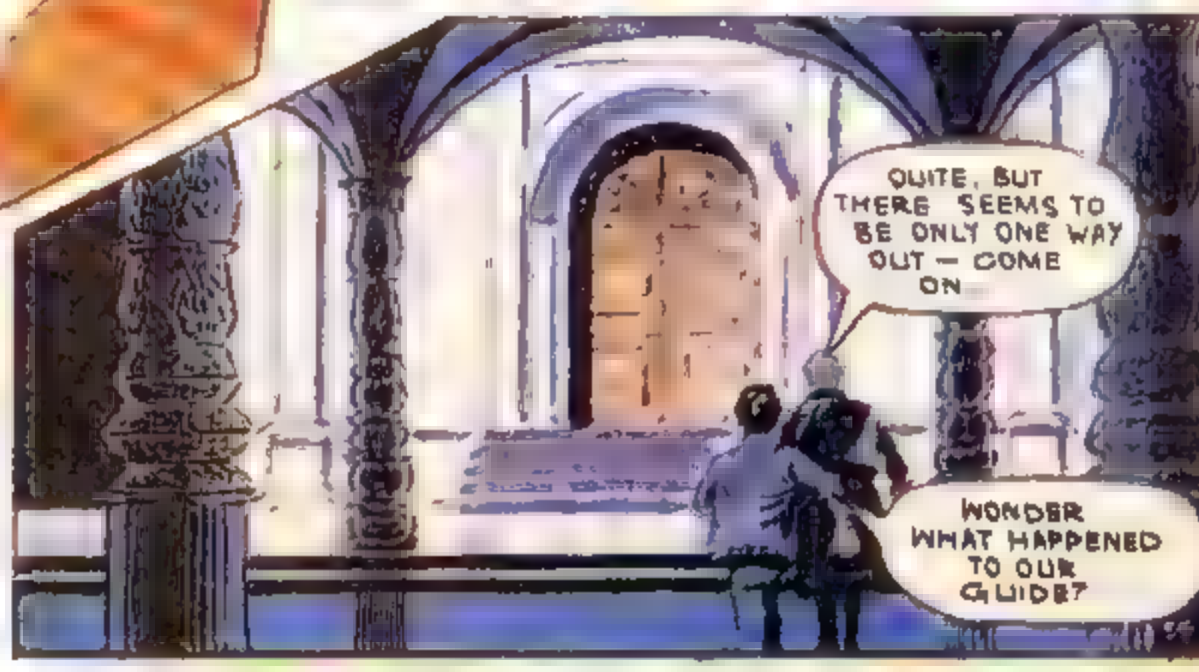








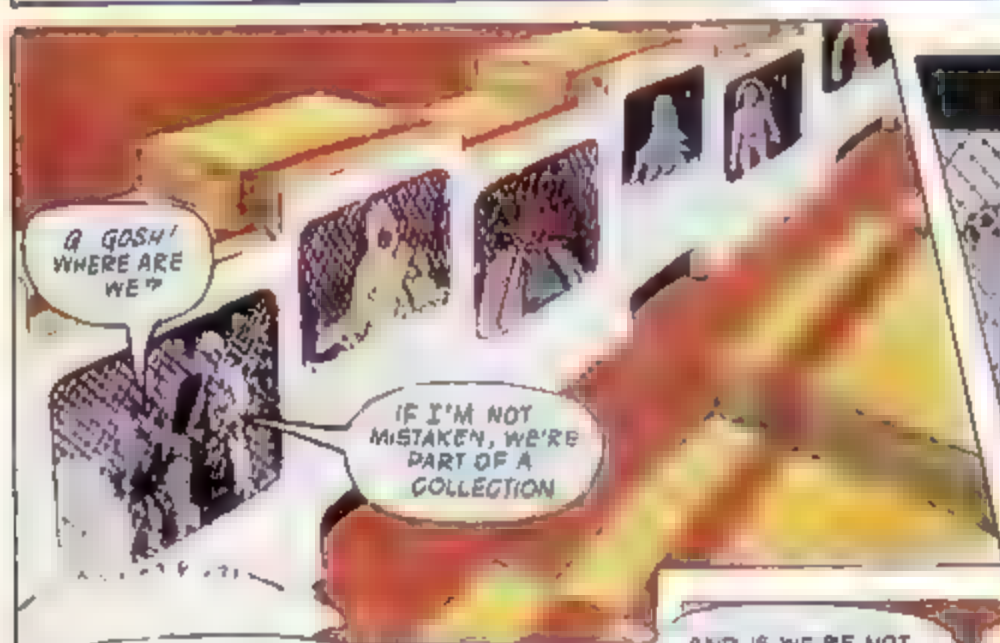


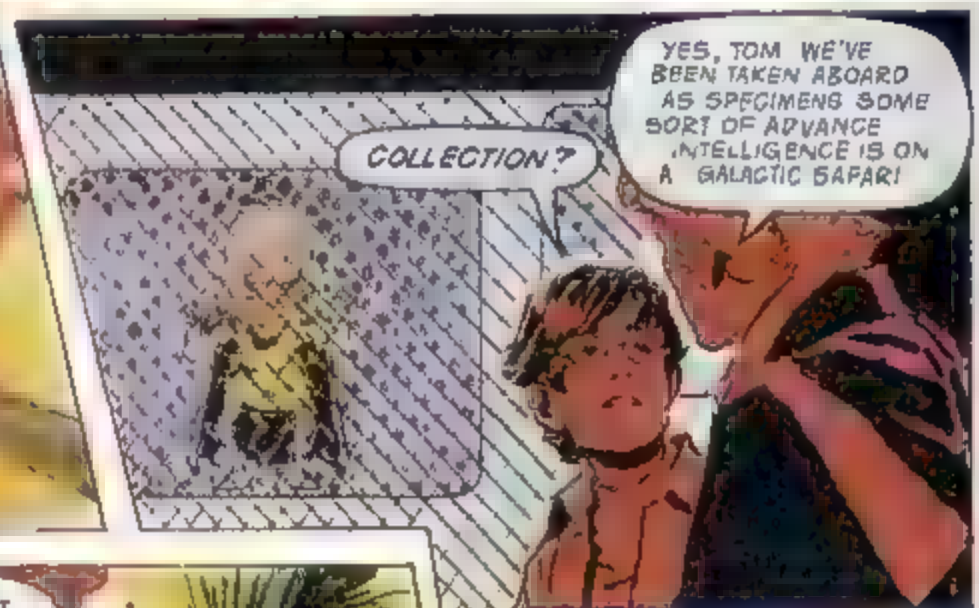


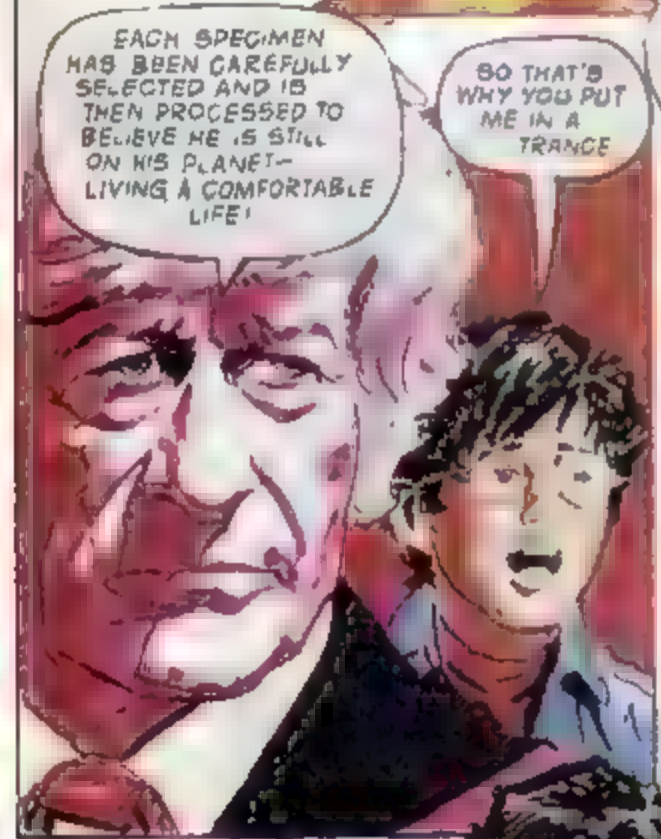
AS THEY APPROACH THE DOOR.
YOU SEE – THE DOORS OPEN FOR US, SO OUR MYSTERIOUS HOST IS A MAGICIAN
AND BEYOND.
A GARDEN, FRESH AIR, SUNSHINE – WE MUST BE BACK ON EARTH!
I WOULDN'T GAMBLE ON THAT, TOM, THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM
I THINK WE'RE BEING EXAMINED. IF WE'RE TO STAY TOGETHER YOU MUST DO AS I SAY. WHATEVER HAPPENS DON'T PANIC.
NEAT MOMENT...
COR! THESE ORANGES LOOK REAL ENOUGH!
NO, TOM, IF WE'RE EVER TO SEE THE BRAIN BEHIND ALL THIS WE HAVE TO KEEP HIM GUESSING
THEN BEHIND THEM.
I THINK WE'RE BEING EXAMINED LIKE MICROBES IN A TEST TUBE. THINGS WILL BE SHOWN TO US TO GAUGE OUR REACTIONS!
ALL SEEMS PEACEFUL ENOUGH BUT WHAT'S THAT RUSTLING NOISE?
IT'S HORRIBLE QUICK LET'S RUN.
NO, TOM DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE STAND YOUR GROUND I PROMISE IT WON'T HURT YOU!
THE MONSTER RISES THREATENINGLY ABOVE THEM.
IT'S GOING TO ATTACK US!
NO, IT'S NOT, TOM, WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T MOVE!
SUDDENLY
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I THINK WE'VE WON THE FIRST ROUND, TOM. THE NEXT FEW MINUTES SHOULD SHOW
SUDDENLY
AS I THOUGHT, TOM, WE'VE PROVED TOO SOPHISTICATED FOR SUCH SIMPLE GAMES.
WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN, DOCTOR?
... THAT WE'RE ONE STEP CLOSER TO MEETING OUR HOST!

THE PROCESS COMPLETE, THE DOCTOR AND HIS YOUNG FRIEND ARE REMOVED

BOON
WAKE UP TOM!
UH HUH? DOCTOR

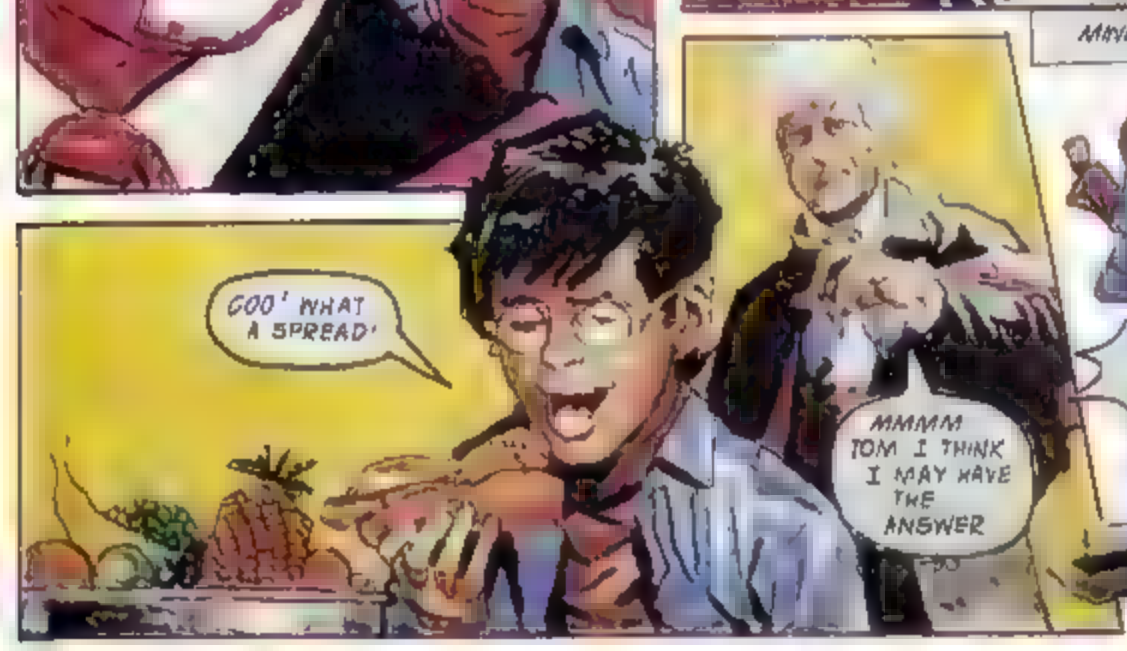

O GOSH! WHERE ARE WE?
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, WE'RE PART OF A COLLECTION


COLLECTION?
YES, TOM WE'VE BEEN TAKEN ABOARD AS SPECIMENS SOME SORT OF ADVANCE INTELLIGENCE IS ON A GALACTIC SAFARI


EACH SPECIMEN HAS BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED AND IS THEN PROCESSED TO BELIEVE HE IS STILL ON HIS PLANET— LIVING A COMFORTABLE LIFE!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU PUT ME IN A TRANCE

AND IF WE RE NOT TO END UP IN SOME FIENDISH ZOO, WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY OUT OF HERE
IT CERTAINLY LOOKS IMPOSSIBLE!

WELL, THEY PUT US IN HERE, SO THERE MUST BE A WAY OUT
COULDN'T WE EAT FIRST DOCTOR? I'M STARVING


GOO! WHAT A SPREAD!
MMMM TOM I THINK I MAY HAVE THE ANSWER

MINUTES LATER
WILL OUR MYSTERIOUS CAPTORS FALL FOR THIS?
YEOW!
AAAGH!

DR WHO IN THE VORTEX

After being drawn from the Earth by a mysterious energy funnel the Doctor and young Tom Phipps find themselves in a strange fantasy world But suddenly, the ground opens up under their feet

WHAT'S HAPPENING, DOCTOR? I'M FRIGHTENED.

I WISH I KNEW, TOM

IS IT ANOTHER MIRAGE, DOCTOR?

NO I THINK IT'S REAL

THEN

IT'S LIKE LANDING ON A TRAMPOLINE

THEY CERTAINLY DON'T SEEM TO WANT TO HURT US, TOM

UGH! WHAT'S THAT?

WE'RE BEING INSPECTED. I'M GOING TO HYPNOTISE YOU, TOM, IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN FIGHT THIS THING

LET YOUR MIND GO BLANK THINK OF A LARGE WHITE SHEET IT IS ABSOLUTELY CLEAN

THAT'S FIXED THE BOY, BUT WILL I BE IN TIME TO PROTECT MYSELF?

THE DOCTOR'S MIND IS JUST BORDERING ON A SELF-INDUCED TRANCE, WHEN HE IS BATHED IN A MYSTERIOUS LIGHT

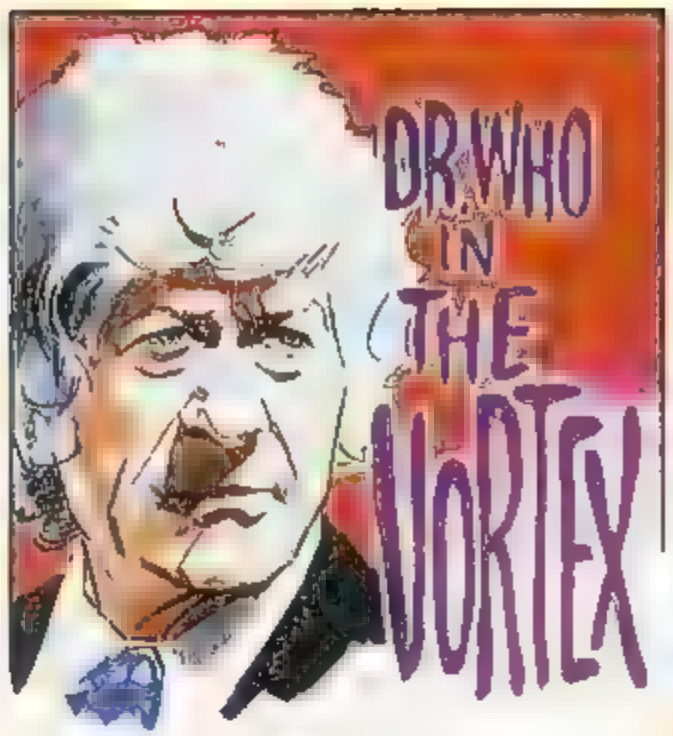
A BATTLE TO PENETRATE THE DOCTOR'S MIND BEGINS

YOU ARE NOT AFRAID. WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS. YOU WILL BE HAPPY

I AM NO ONE I AM NO ONE

FOR SEVERAL MINUTES, THE ALIEN POWER THREATENS TO FOIL THE TIME-TRAVELLERS MENTAL DEFENCES ..

YOUR LIFE WILL GO ON AS BEFORE.



ABOARD AN ALIEN CRAFT, THE DOCTOR AND YOUNG TOM PHIPPS FIND THEMSELVES IMPRISONED IN A SORT OF GALACTIC ZOO NOW, TO ESCAPE THEIR CELL, THEY FAKE FOOD POISONING

THE DIET MUST BE INCORRECT.

IMPOSSIBLE EXACT ANALYSIS WAS MADE.

IF THEY SUSPECT WE HAVE RESISTED THEIR MIND TREATMENT, WE'RE LOST.

NOW TOM LET'S GO!

WITH YOU, DOCTOR!

WON'T THEY COME AFTER US?

NOT IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT, TOM!

IF SO, WE CANNOT DESTROY IT WITHOUT KILLING THE OTHER CAPTIVES ABOARD, INCLUDING OURSELVES!

I HAVEN'T A CLUE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, DOCTOR

I THINK WE'RE CAPTIVES OF SOMETHING WHICH CAN BE DESCRIBED AS A BIOLOGICAL COMPUTER.

COME AGAIN, DOCTOR I'M NOT WITH YOU!

IT'S A SELF-SUFFICIENT LIVING ORGANISM THAT HAS BEEN LAUNCHED ON A GALLACTIC COLLECTING EXPEDITION

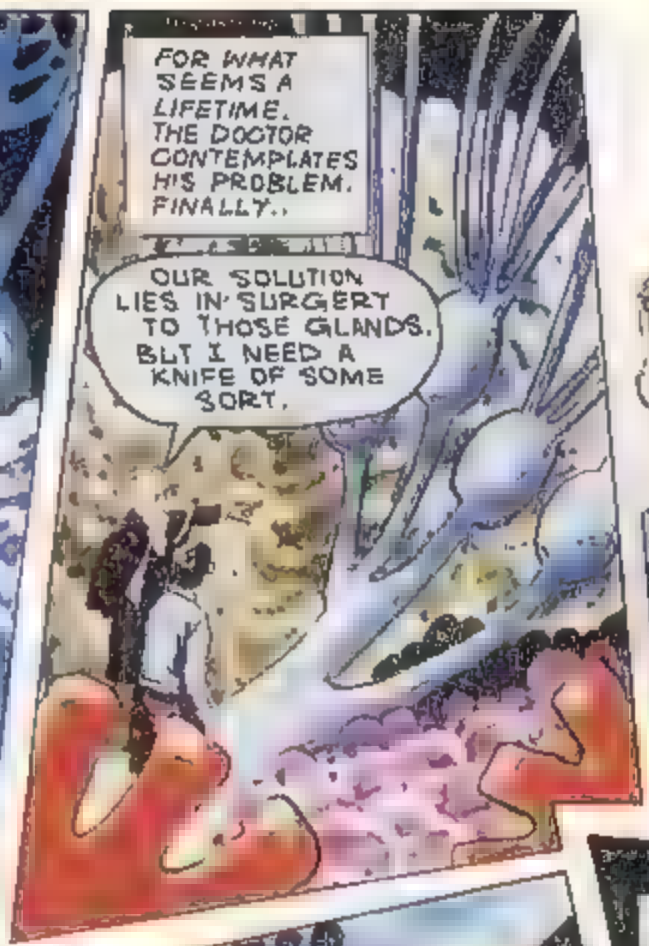
WHAT WE HAVE TO DO, IS FIND THE PROGRAMMING BANK AND REVERSE IT'S ORDER

MINUTES LATER..

THAT'S GREAT, DOCTOR, BUT I STILL DON'T SEE HOW YOU'RE GOING TO REVERSE THINGS

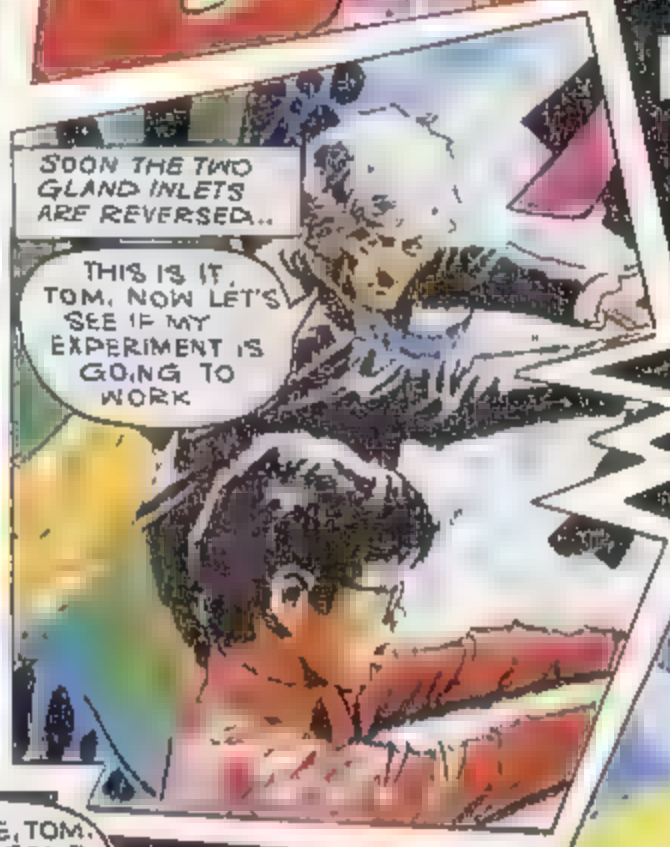
AH, THIS IS WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, TOM

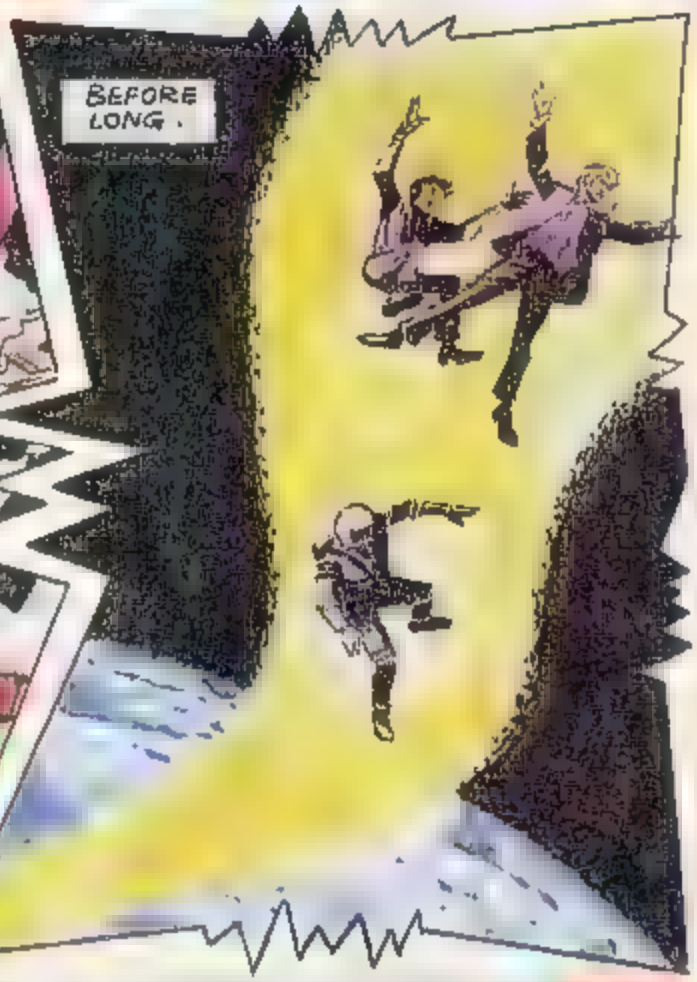
I WANT YOU TO BE VERY QUIET, TOM. THIS IS GOING TO TAKE A CONCERTED MENTAL EFFORT.


FOR WHAT SEEMS A LIFETIME. THE DOCTOR CONTEMPLATES HIS PROBLEM. FINALLY..
OUR SOLUTION LIES IN SURGERY TO THOSE GLANDS. BUT I NEED A KNIFE OF SOME SORT.

I'VE MY POCKET KNIFE, DOCTOR
EXCELLENT! LOOK, TOM, I CAN'T GUARANTEE I'M RIGHT! IF I'M NOT, WE'RE GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF OUR LIVES IMPRISONED HERE

YOU DO THE SAME WITH THAT ONE, TOM USE YOUR SHOE AS A TOURNIQUET


SOON THE TWO GLAND INLETS ARE REVERSED..
THIS IS IT, TOM. NOW LET'S SEE IF MY EXPERIMENT IS GOING TO WORK


BEFORE LONG.

THERE'S ONE THING I DON'T UNDERSTAND, DOCTOR WHO WAS THE SPACE-SUITED FIGURE?
A MERE IMAGE, TOM. IF YOU WERE SOME OTHER CREATURE, IT WOULD TAKE THAT FORM. A SORT OF REASSURANCE

AND NOW IT WILL RETURN TO WHERE IT CAME FROM. RETURNING ITS CARGO ON THE WAY WHAT WILL ITS CREATORS THINK?

WHO KNOWS? IT WILL TAKE MANY LIGHT YEARS TO RETURN ITS CAPTIVES.

WEEK ENDING AUGUST 18th, 1973

Issue No. 131

5p

TV ACTION

DOUBLE PAGE PICTURE

THE CARPENTERS

DR. WHO in THE UNHEARD VOICE

In TV ACTION next week

Steve McGarrett and Danny Williams star in HAWAII FIVE-0

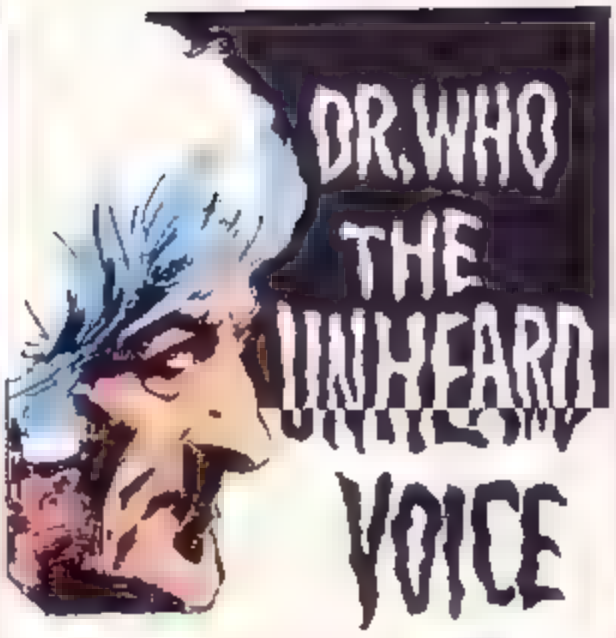
★★★★★★★

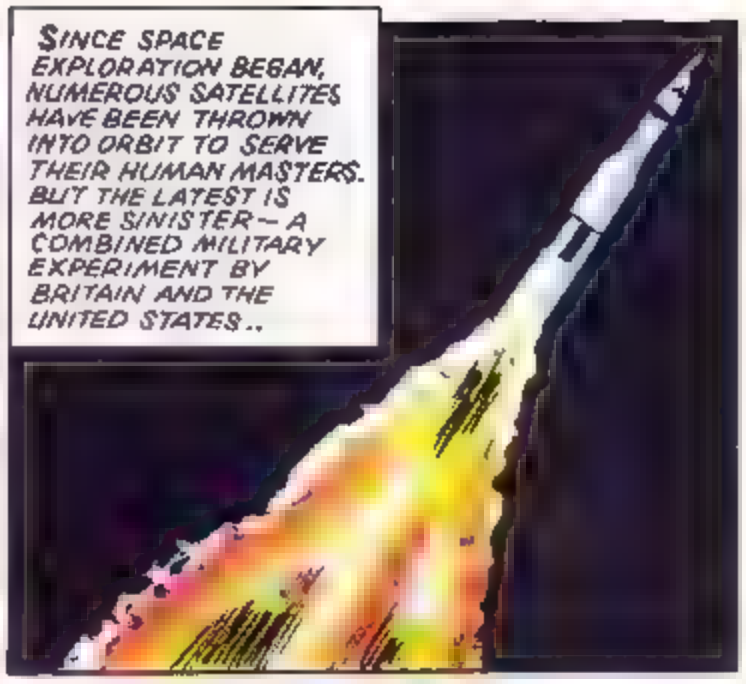
Captain Mainwaring gets a surprise in Dad's Army

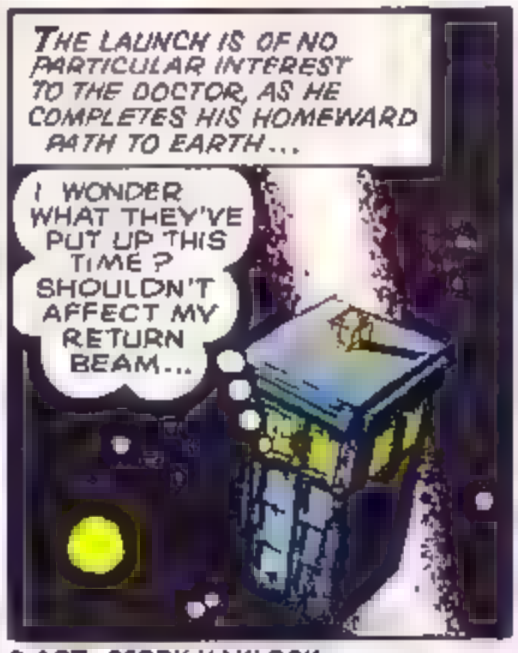
★★★★★★★

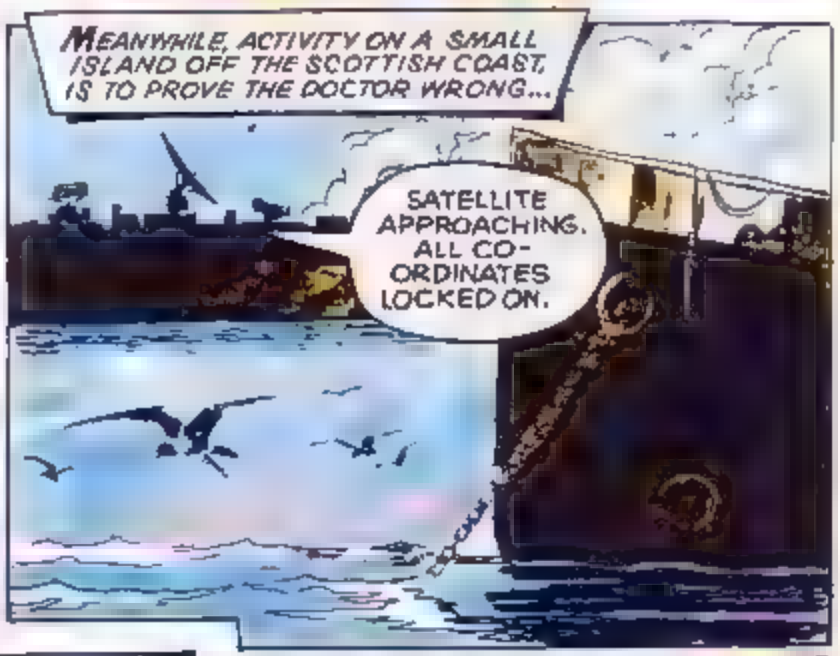
There's a complete PERSUADERS story called, 'The Music Box'

ORDER TV ACTION NOW!

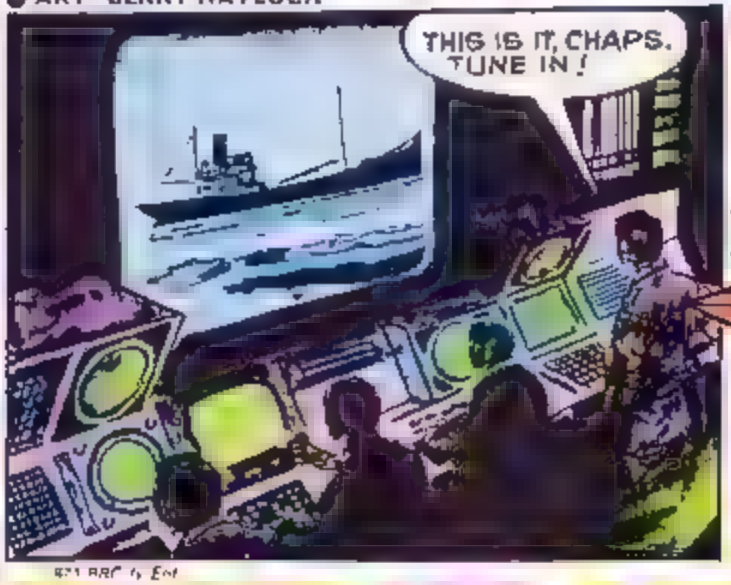


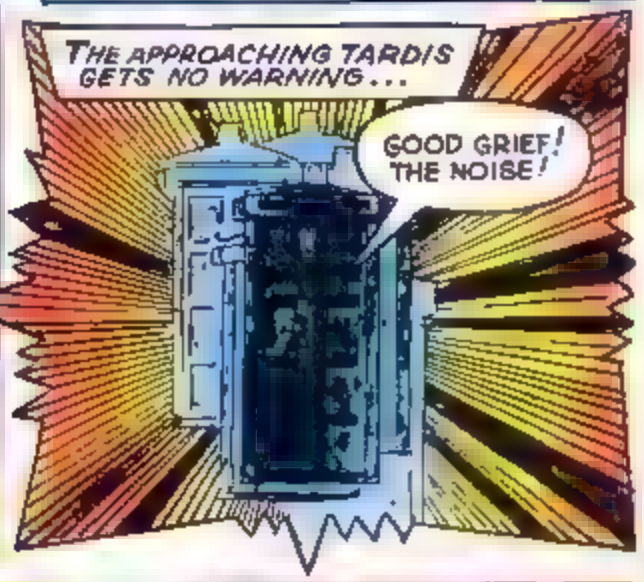


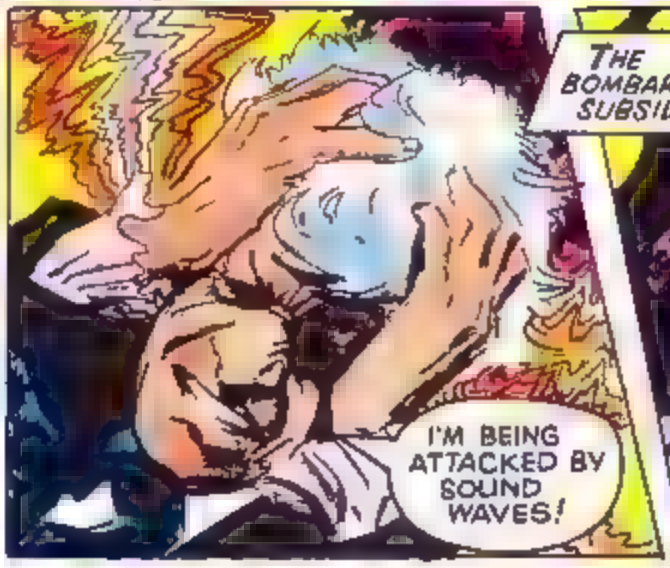


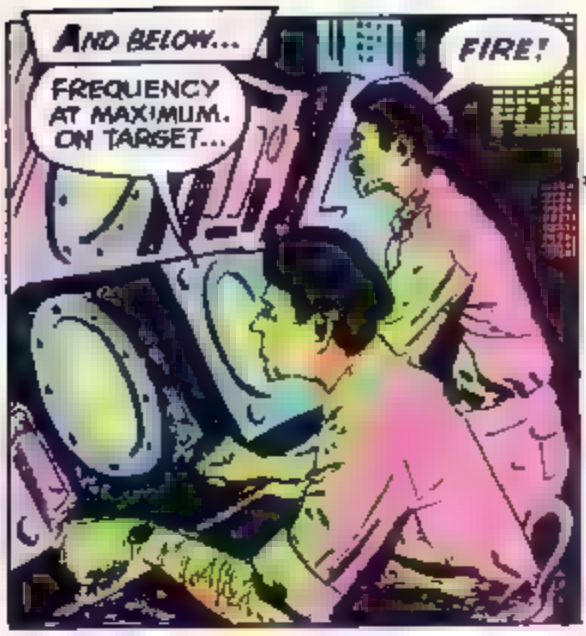


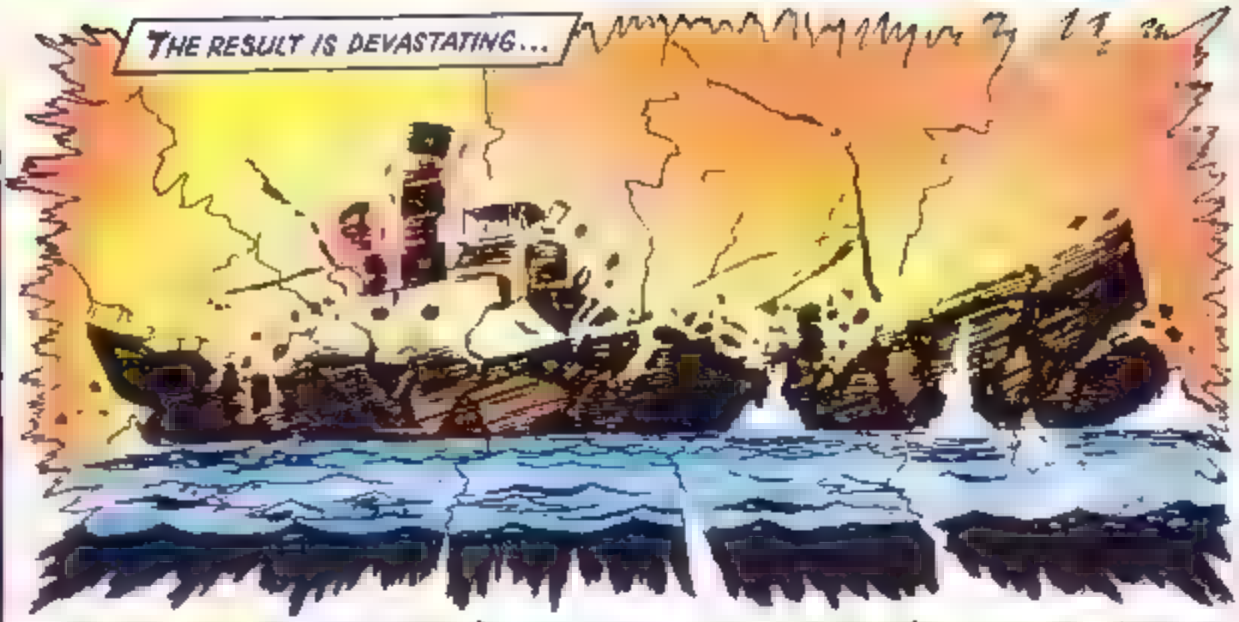
● ART GERRY HAYLOCK

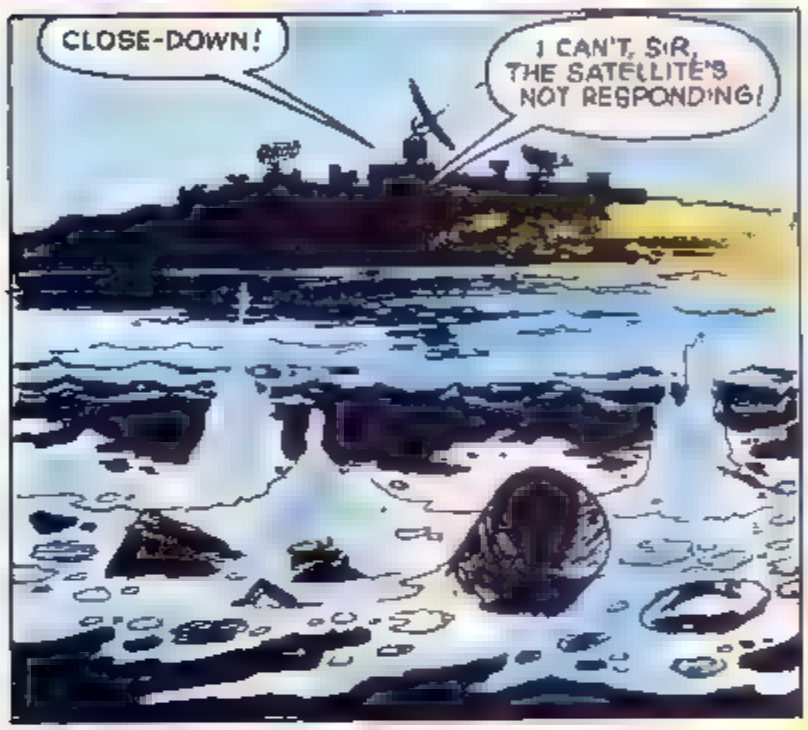


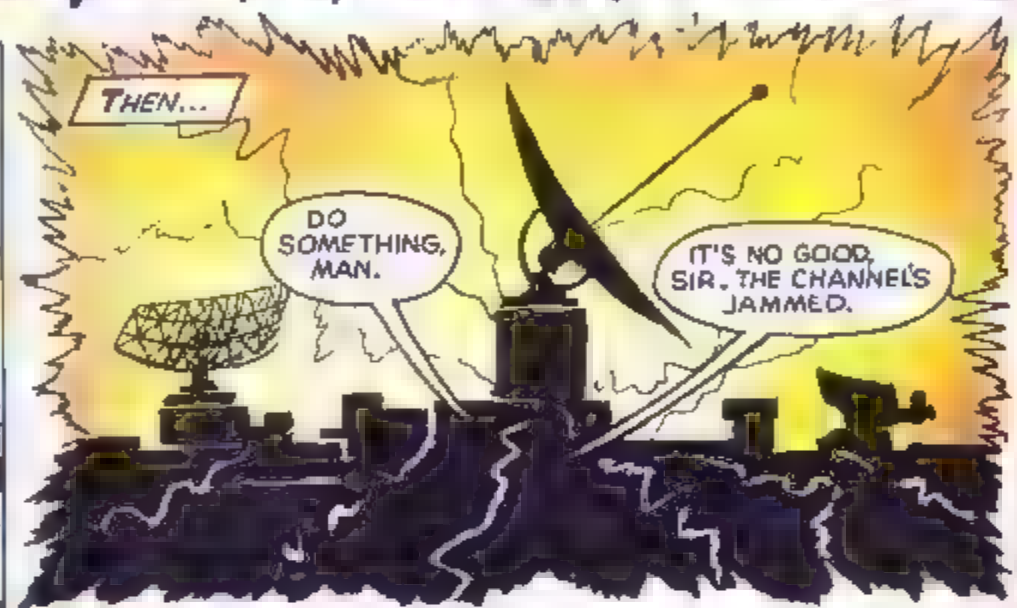


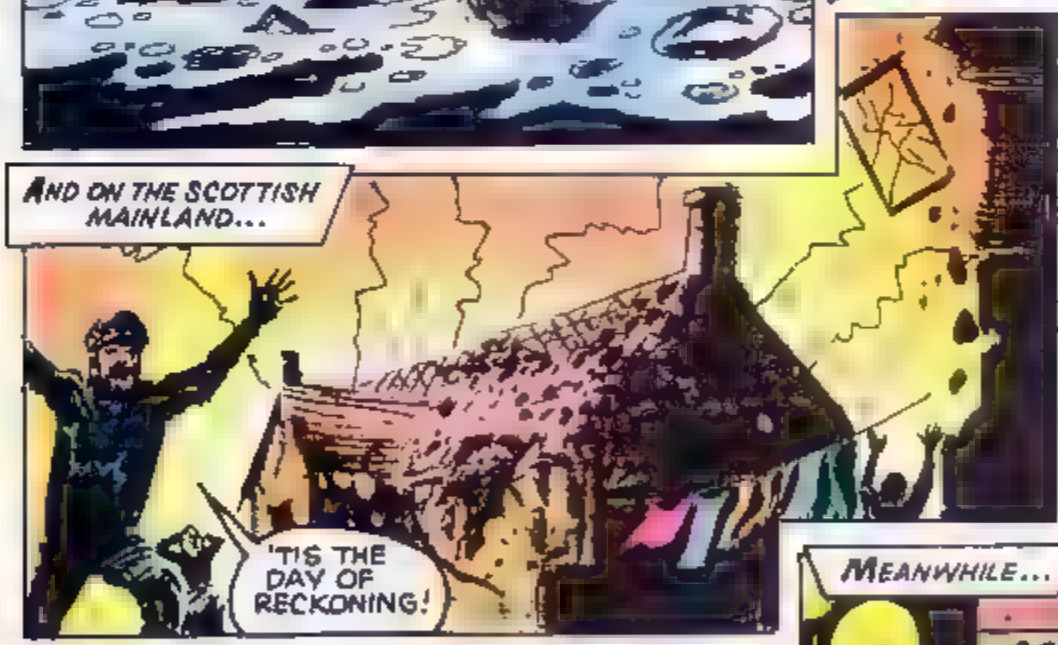


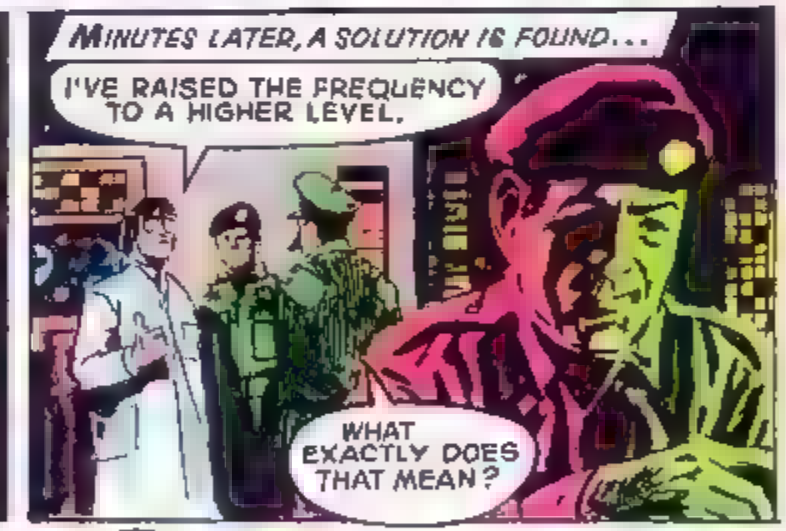

AND BELOW...
FREQUENCY AT MAXIMUM. ON TARGET...
FIRE!


THE RESULT IS DEVASTATING...


CLOSE-DOWN!
I CAN'T, SIR, THE SATELLITE'S NOT RESPONDING!


THEN...
DO SOMETHING, MAN.
IT'S NO GOOD, SIR. THE CHANNEL'S JAMMED.


AND ON THE SCOTTISH MAINLAND...
'TIS THE DAY OF RECKONING!


MINUTES LATER, A SOLUTION IS FOUND...
I'VE RAISED THE FREQUENCY TO A HIGHER LEVEL.
WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?

IT'S NOW ABOVE HUMAN AUDIO RANGE.
HADN'T WE BETTER DESTRUCT, SIR?
COME, COME, NIGEL, WE CAN'T THROW AWAY A MULTI-MILLION POUND PROJECT JUST LIKE THAT.

MEANWHILE...
IT'S STILL TRANSMITTING, BUT ON A HIGHER FREQUENCY.

EXPLODING METEORS! THE MAD FOOLS!

THE DOCTOR WHO CLASSIC COMICS INDEX

The essential strip-by-strip guide to the twenty-seven issues. Researched and compiled by John Ainsworth

THE STRIPS

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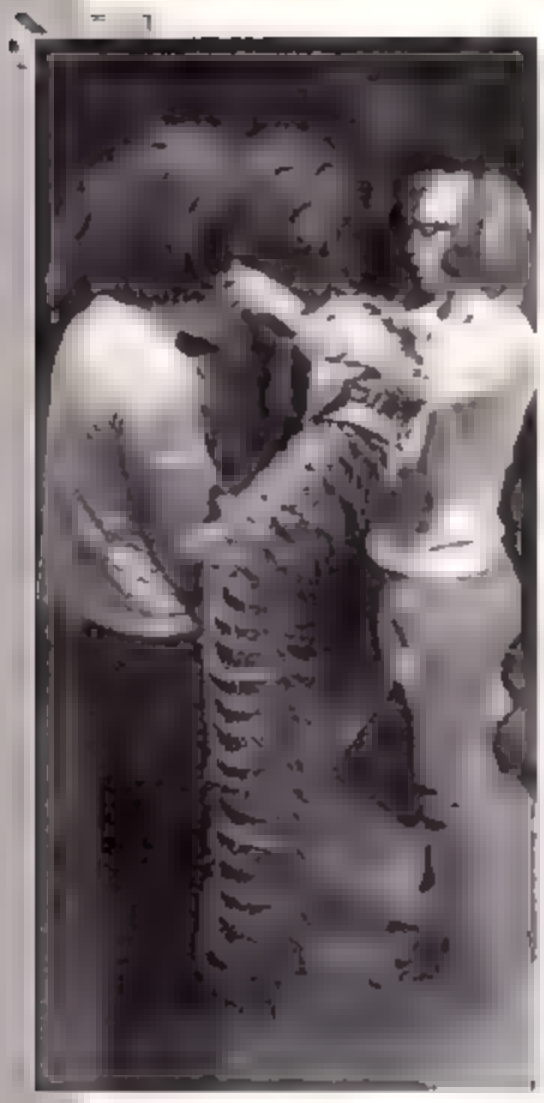

All photographs taken behind the scenes by **Countdown.** Al. © Andrew M. Beech.

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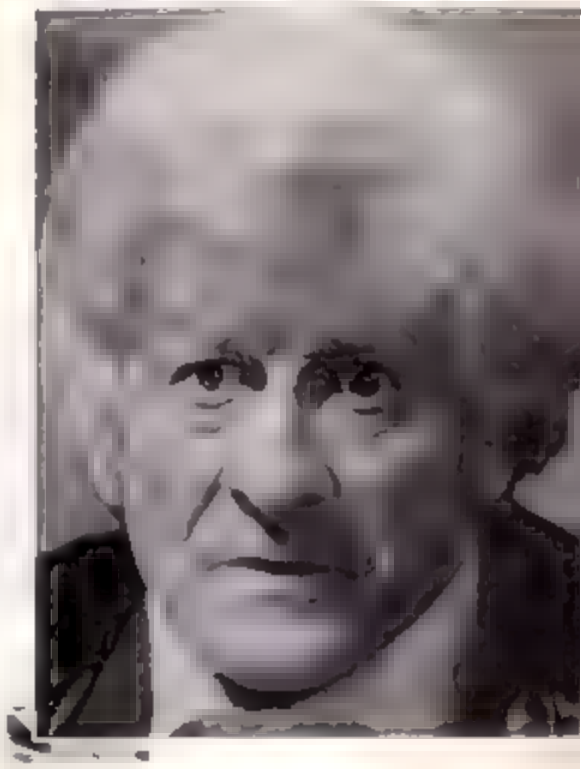

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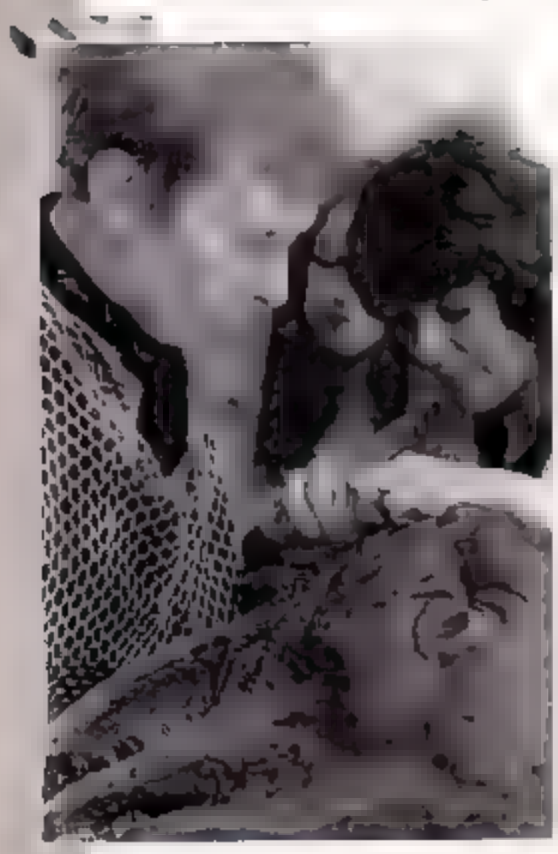

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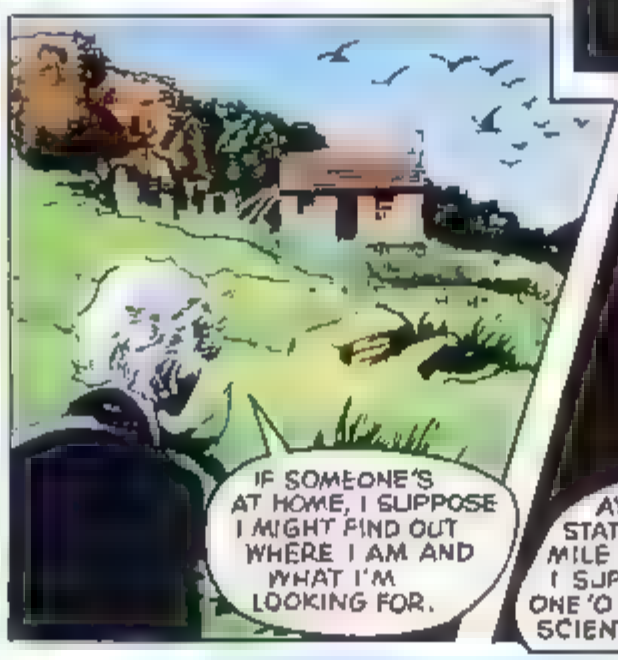
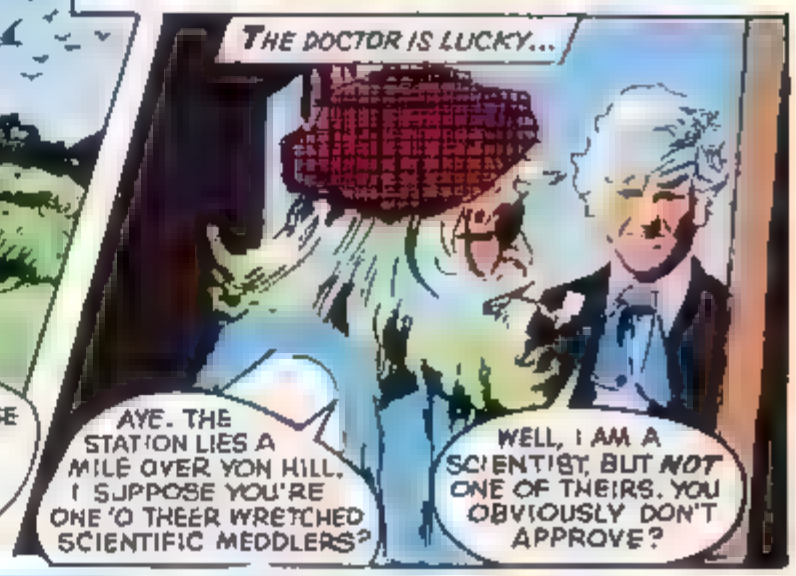
MINUTES LATER...
THE NORTH WEST COAST OF SCOTLAND...

M.O.D. PROPERTY UNAUTHORISED PERSONNEL STRICTLY PROHIBITED
THAT LOOKS PROMISING..

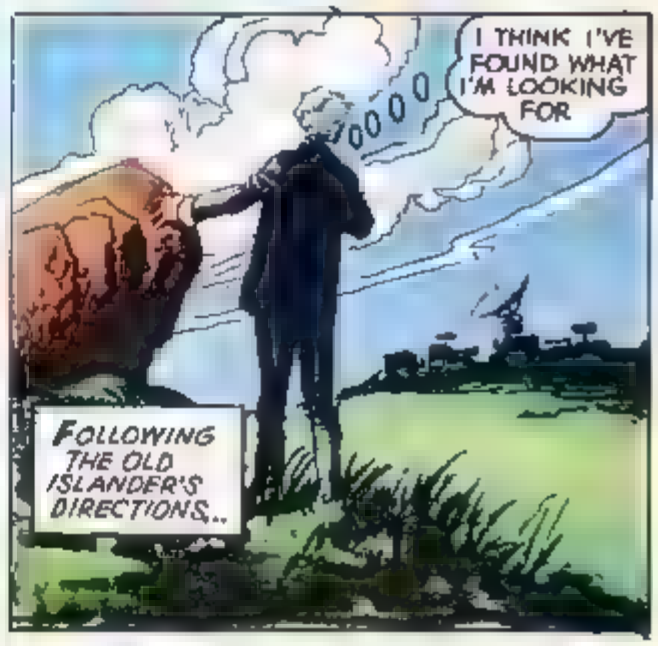
TRUST THE DEFENCE MINISTRY TO ABUSE A NATURAL BIRD SANCTUARY.

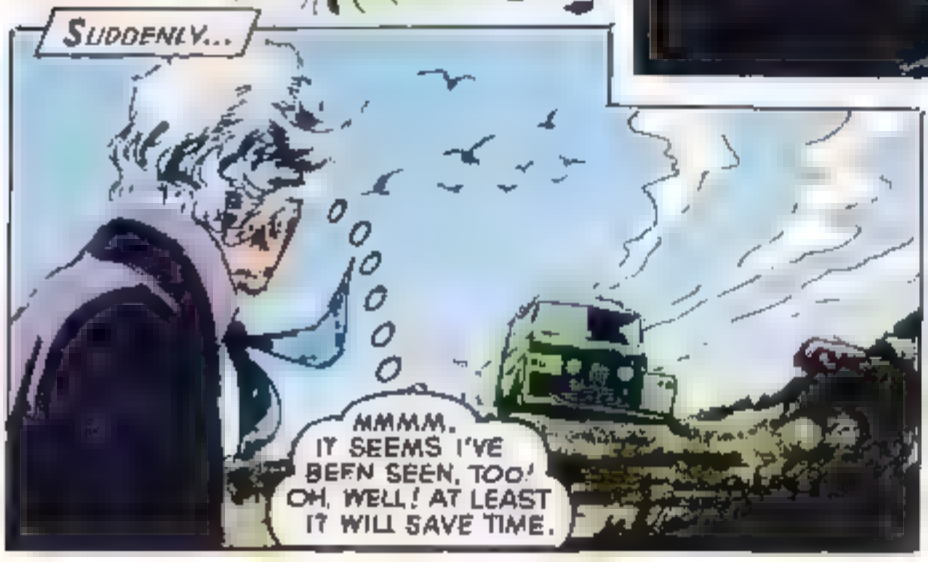

IF SOMEONE'S AT HOME, I SUPPOSE I MIGHT FIND OUT WHERE I AM AND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.

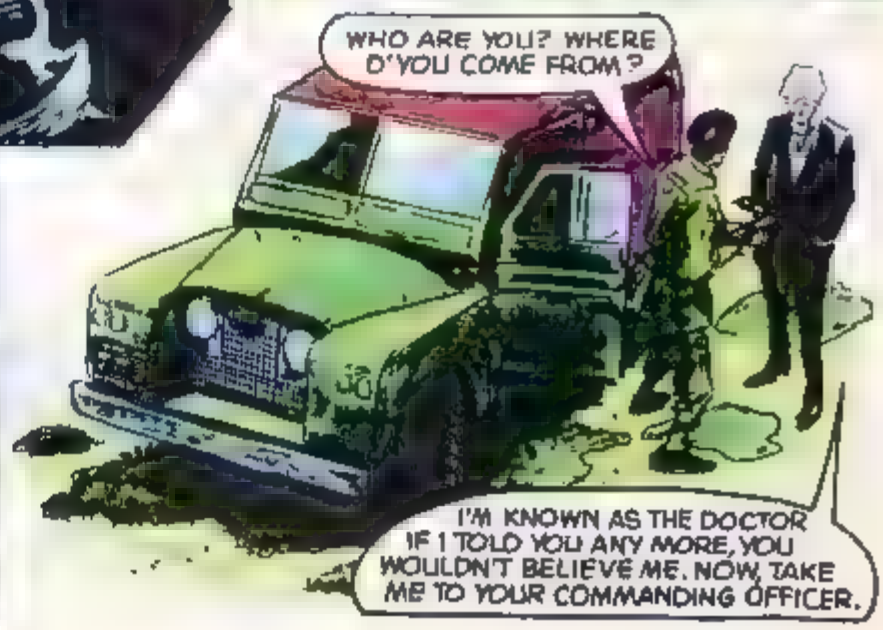

THE DOCTOR IS LUCKY...
AYE. THE STATION LIES A MILE OVER YON HILL. I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ONE 'O THEER WRETCHED SCIENTIFIC MEDDLERS?
WELL, I AM A SCIENTIST, BUT NOT ONE OF THEIRS. YOU OBVIOUSLY DON'T APPROVE?

APPROVE! HUH! THEY'LL TAMPER WITH THE ELEMENTS ONCE TOO OFTEN. LOOK AT MA BIRDS.

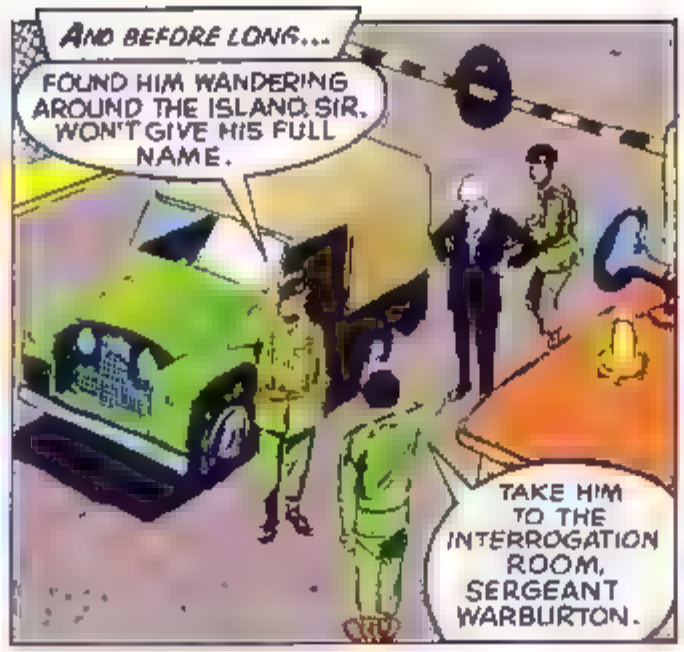
SOMETHING DOES SEEM TO HAVE DISTURBED THEM.
AND I KNOW WHAT

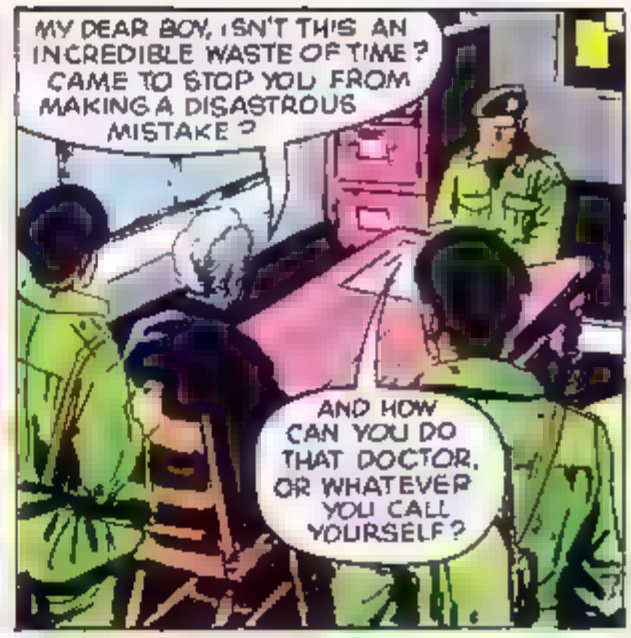

I THINK I'VE FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR
FOLLOWING THE OLD ISLANDER'S DIRECTIONS..


SUDDENLY...
MMMM. IT SEEMS I'VE BEEN SEEN, TOO! OH, WELL! AT LEAST IT WILL SAVE TIME.


WHO ARE YOU? WHERE D'YOU COME FROM?
I'M KNOWN AS THE DOCTOR. IF I TOLD YOU ANY MORE, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME. NOW, TAKE ME TO YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER.

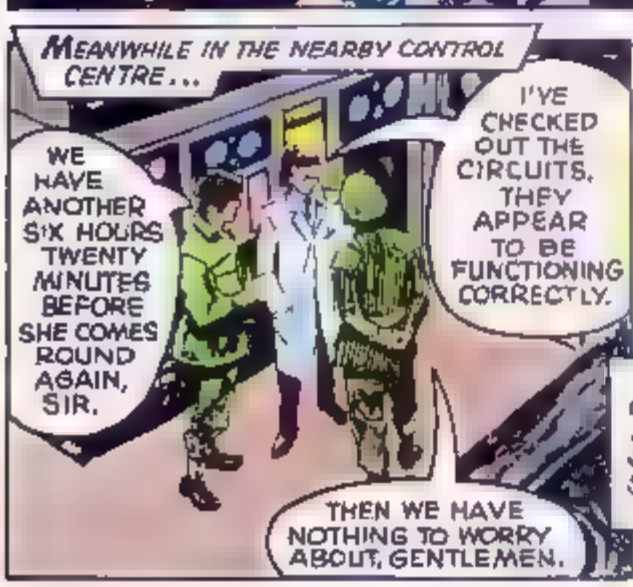
IT WON'T PAY TO BE CLEVER, FRIEND. YOU'RE IN TROUBLE – BIG TROUBLE!
OH, DEAR HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I HEARD THOSE LINES!


AND BEFORE LONG...
FOUND HIM WANDERING AROUND THE ISLAND, SIR. WON'T GIVE HIS FULL NAME.
TAKE HIM TO THE INTERROGATION ROOM, SERGEANT WARBURTON.

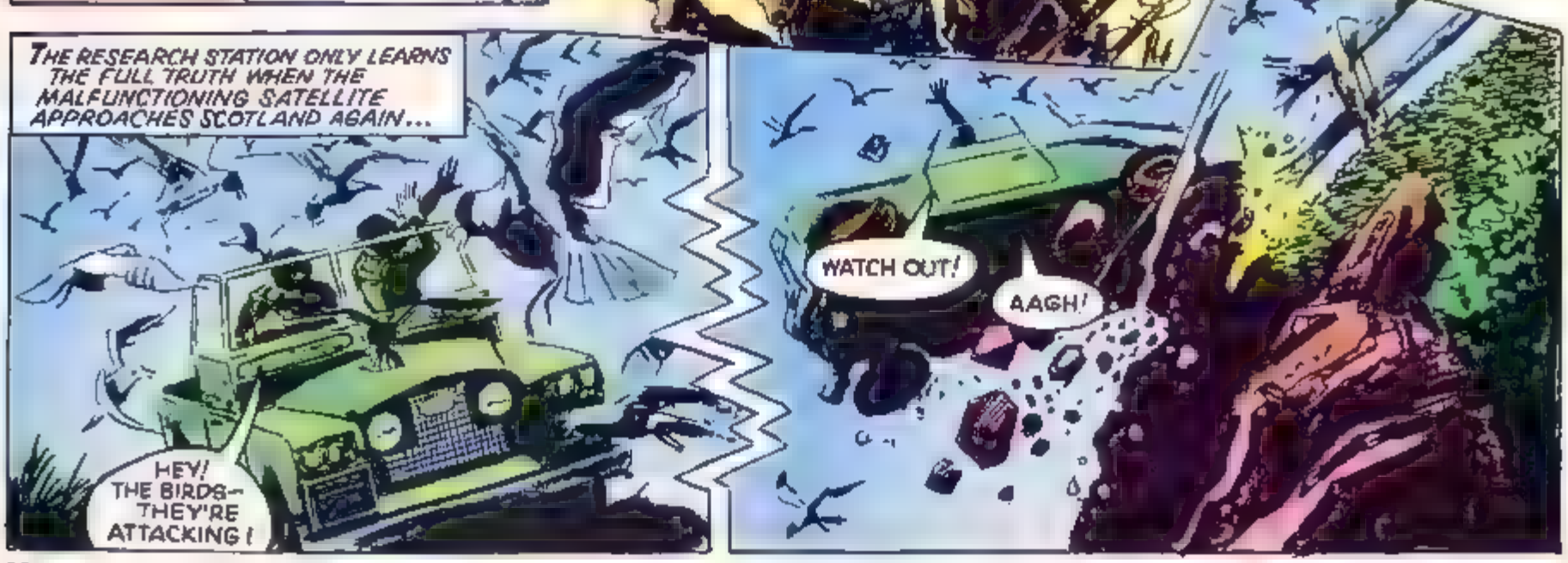

MY DEAR BOY, ISN'T THIS AN INCREDIBLE WASTE OF TIME? CAME TO STOP YOU FROM MAKING A DISASTROUS MISTAKE?
AND HOW CAN YOU DO THAT DOCTOR, OR WHATEVER YOU CALL YOURSELF?

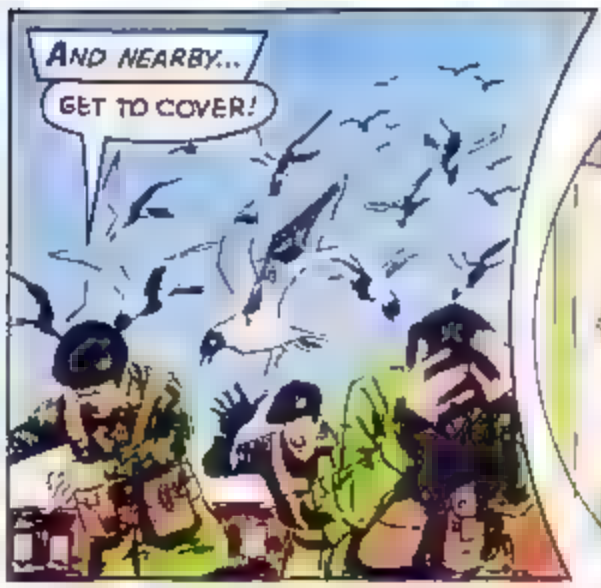
AS USUAL, YOU RE UPSETTING THE BALANCE OF NATURAL ORDER. ALDIO WAVES ARE DANGEROLS THINGS.

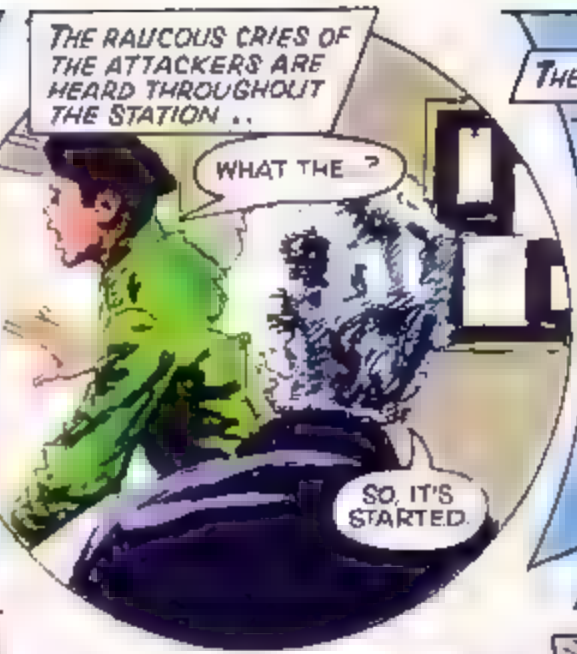
I HAVE EVERY REASON TO SUSPECT YOU OF BEING AN ALIEN SPY
DON'T TALK SUCH NONSENSE. YOU CAN CHECK OUT MY IDENTITY WITH BRIGADIER LETHBRIDGE-STEWART OF UNIT. BUT I MUST SPEAK TO YOUR C.O.!

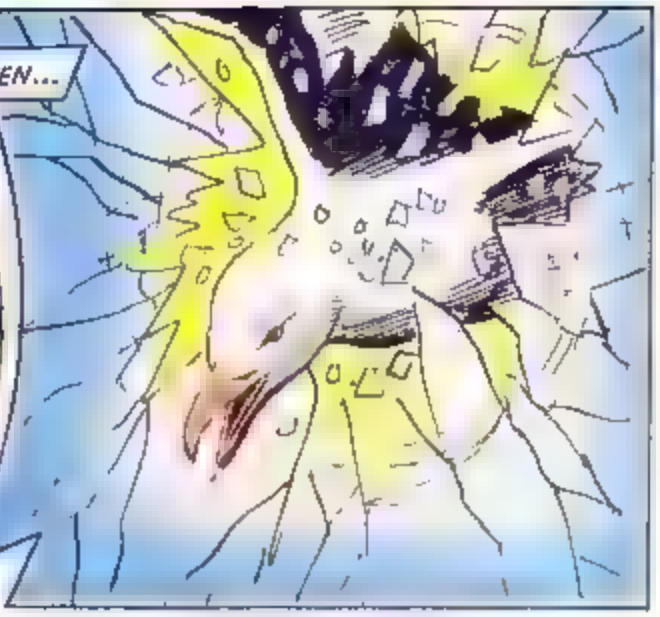

MEANWHILE IN THE NEARBY CONTROL CENTRE...
WE HAVE ANOTHER SIX HOURS TWENTY MINUTES BEFORE SHE COMES ROUND AGAIN, SIR.
I'VE CHECKED OUT THE CIRCUITS. THEY APPEAR TO BE FUNCTIONING CORRECTLY.
THEN WE HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, GENTLEMEN.

BUT COL. HIGGS CONFIDENCE IS SHORT-LIVED, AS A SERIES OF INCIDENTS STRADDLING THE GLOBE BEGIN TO OCCUR...
HELP. NO!
THEY'VE GONE CRAZY! AAGH!

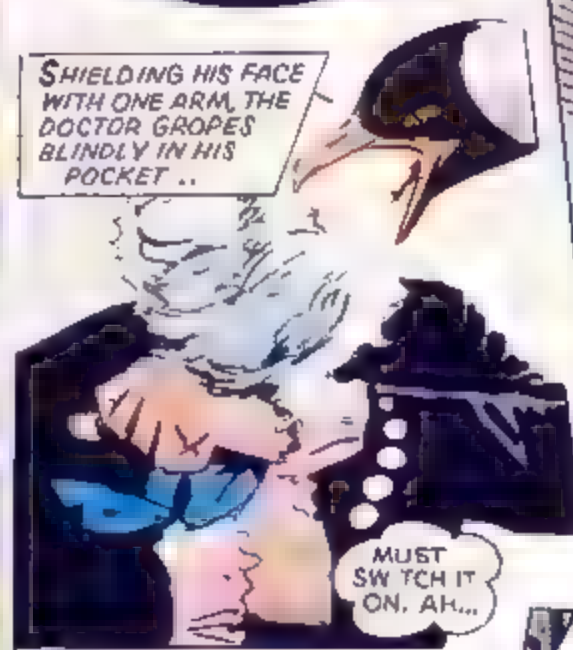

THE RESEARCH STATION ONLY LEARNS THE FULL TRUTH WHEN THE MALFUNCTIONING SATELLITE APPROACHES SCOTLAND AGAIN...
HEY! THE BIRDS– THEY'RE ATTACKING!
WATCH OUT!
AAGH!


AND NEARBY...
GET TO COVER!


THE RAUCOUS CRIES OF THE ATTACKERS ARE HEARD THROUGHOUT THE STATION ..
WHAT THE ?
SO, IT'S STARTED.


THEN...

EVEN THE DOCTOR IS UNPREPARED FOR WHAT FOLLOWS ..
GET OFF, YOU BRUTE!
OUCH! GO AWAY!

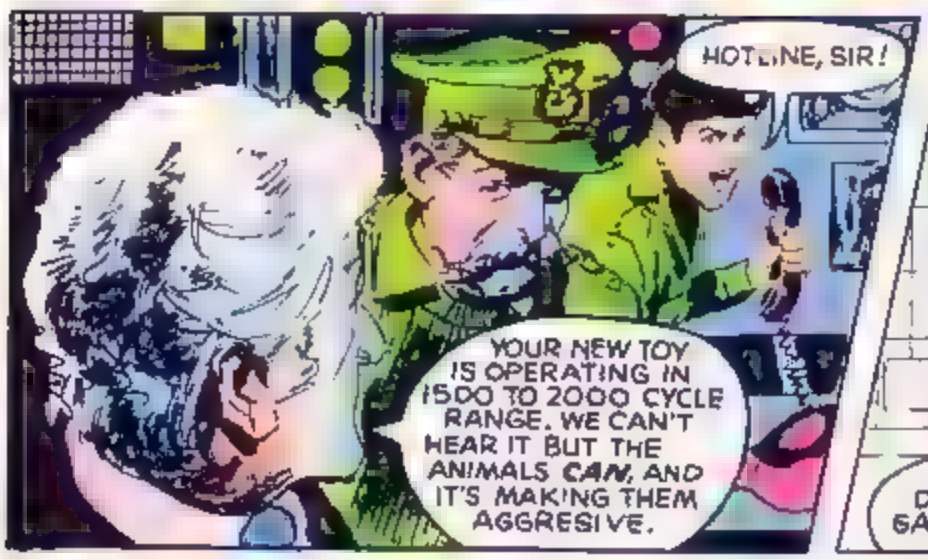

SHIELDING HIS FACE WITH ONE ARM, THE DOCTOR GROPES BLINDLY IN HIS POCKET ..
MUST SWITCH IT ON. AH...

OUT EVERYONE QUICKLY NOW.

AND AS THE DOCTOR SLAMS THE DOOR...
PHEW! JUST IN TIME. I THINK...

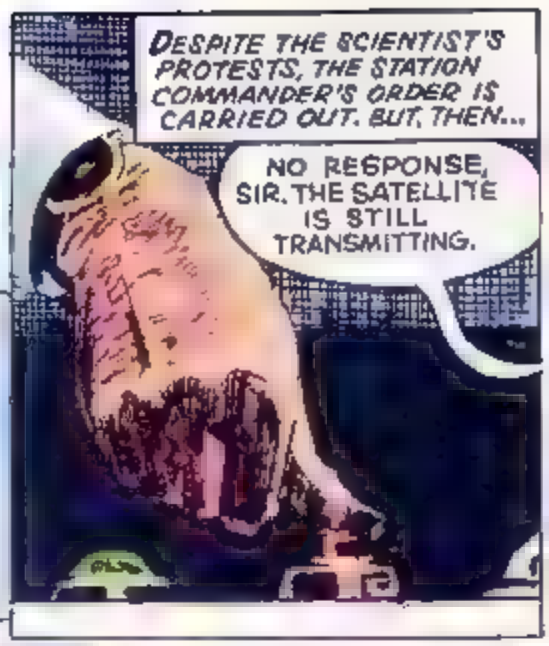
NOW, MY BOY. TAKE ME TO WHOEVER HAPPENS TO BE IN CHARGE OF THIS DEVILISH ESTABLISHMENT

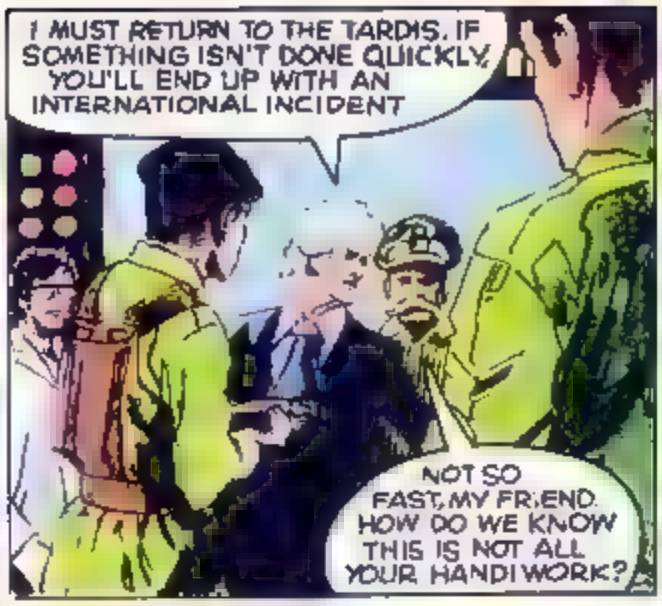
AND SOON...
THEY'RE LEAVING!
THE SATELLITE'S POWER IS RECEDING.

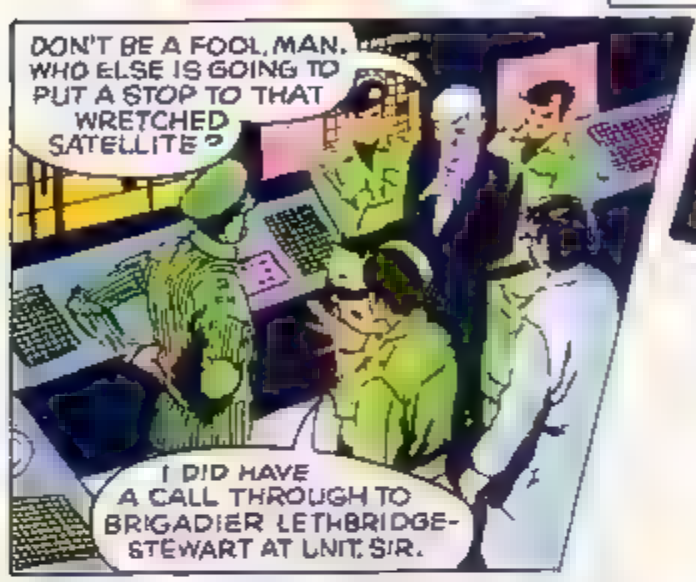

HOTLINE, SIR!
YOUR NEW TOY IS OPERATING IN 1500 TO 2000 CYCLE RANGE. WE CAN'T HEAR IT BUT THE ANIMALS CAN, AND IT'S MAKING THEM AGGRESIVE.

I SEE. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. IN THAT CASE WE'D BETTER ACT IMMEDIATELY.
WE'VE TRIED TO DESTRUCT BUT THE SATELLITE WON'T RESPOND

IT SEEMS YOU WERE RIGHT, DOCTOR-WHATEVER IT WAS. DESTRUCT IMMEDIATELY!
BUT, COLONEL!

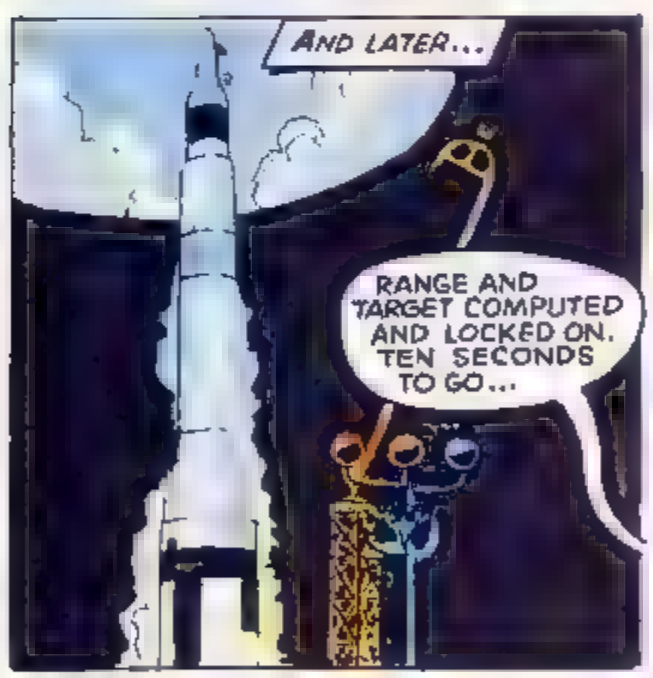

DESPITE THE SCIENTIST'S PROTESTS, THE STATION COMMANDER'S ORDER IS CARRIED OUT. BUT, THEN...
NO RESPONSE, SIR. THE SATELLITE IS STILL TRANSMITTING.

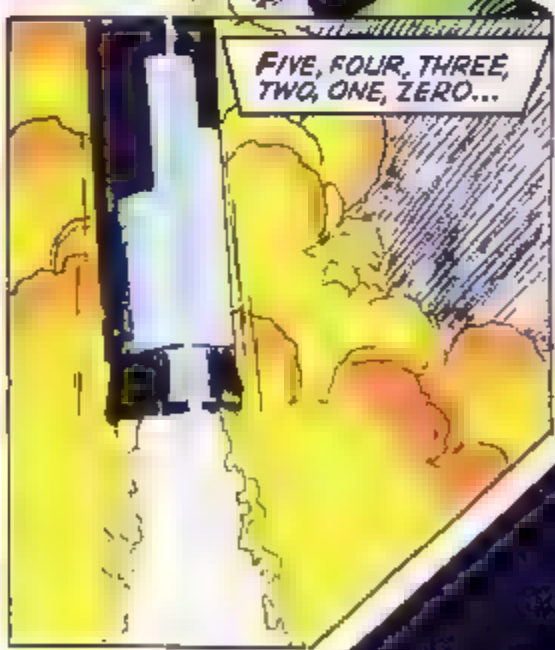

I MUST RETURN TO THE TARDIS. IF SOMETHING ISN'T DONE QUICKLY, YOU'LL END UP WITH AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT
NOT SO FAST, MY FRIEND. HOW DO WE KNOW THIS IS NOT ALL YOUR HANDIWORK?

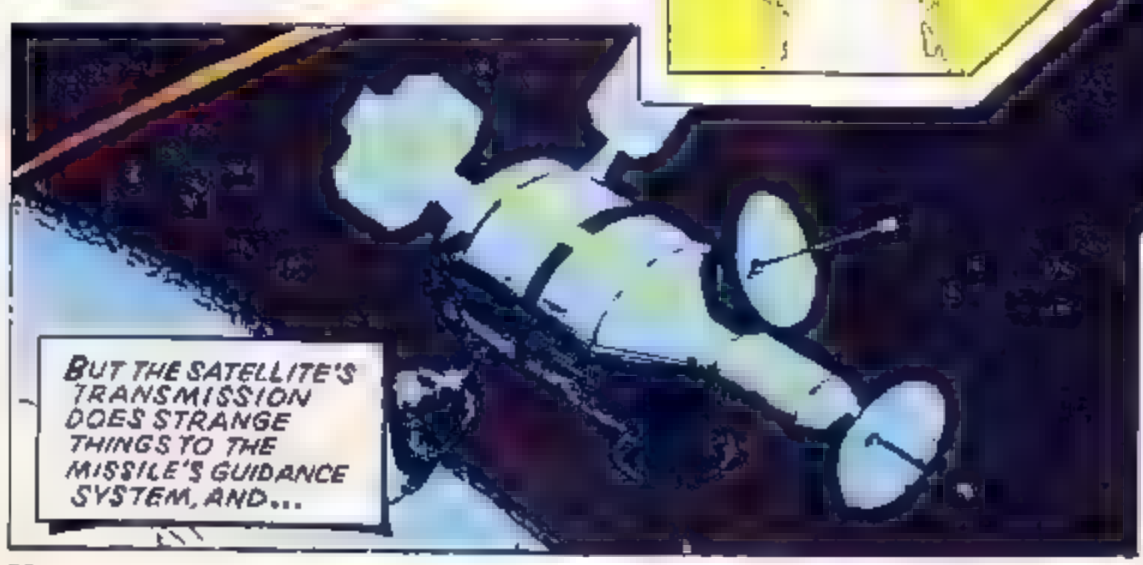

DON'T BE A FOOL, MAN. WHO ELSE IS GOING TO PUT A STOP TO THAT WRETCHED SATELLITE?
I DID HAVE A CALL THROUGH TO BRIGADIER LETHBRIDGE-STEWART AT UNIT, SIR.

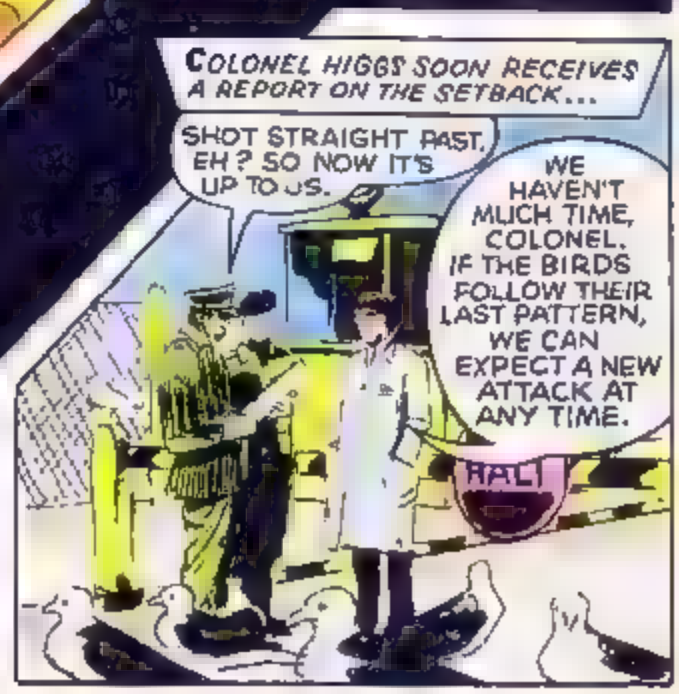
KEEP THIS MAN IN CLOSE CUSTODY UNTIL WE HAVE CONFIRMATION OF HIS IDENTITY.

HADN'T WE BETTER LISTEN TO HIM, SIR! HOW ARE WE GOING TO STOP THE TRANSMISSION?
QUITE SIMPLY, RICHARD. THE YANKS ARE SENDING UP A MISSILE.


AND LATER...
RANGE AND TARGET COMPUTED AND LOCKED ON. TEN SECONDS TO GO...

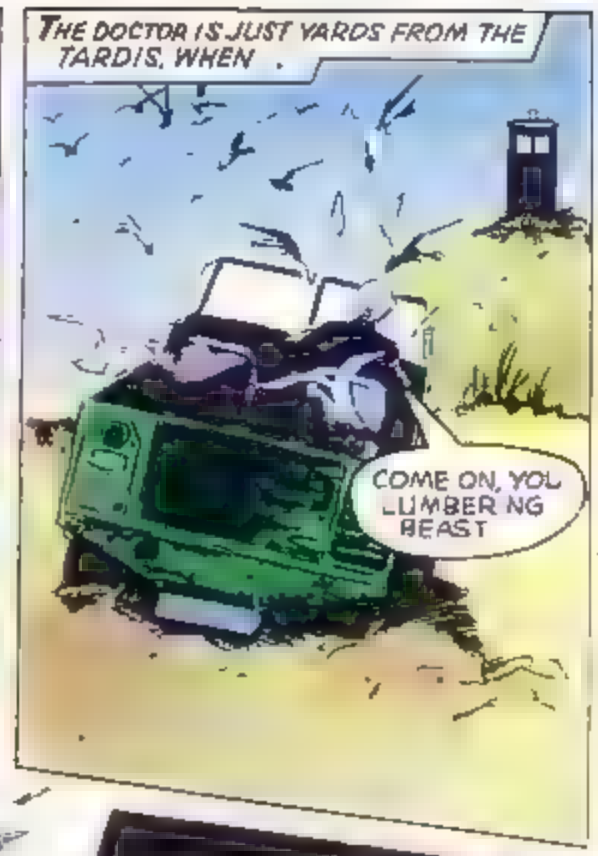

FIVE, FOUR, THREE, TWO, ONE, ZERO...


BUT THE SATELLITE'S TRANSMISSION DOES STRANGE THINGS TO THE MISSILE'S GUIDANCE SYSTEM, AND...

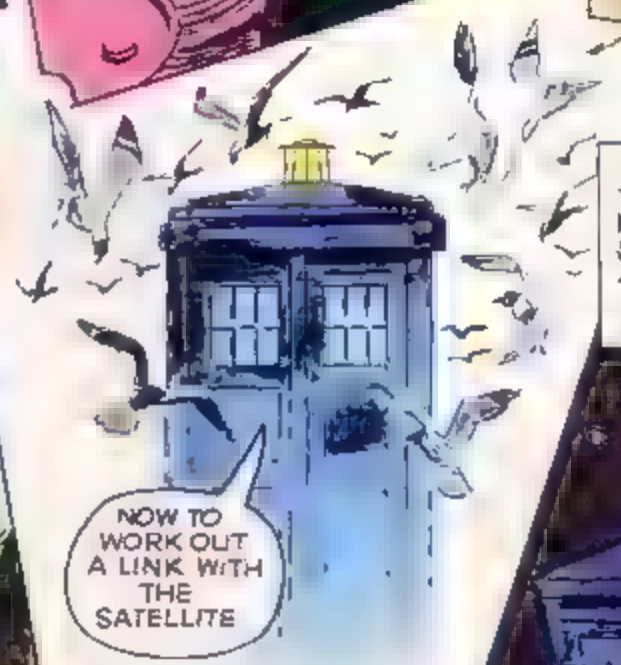

COLONEL HIGGS SOON RECEIVES A REPORT ON THE SETBACK...
SHOT STRAIGHT PAST, EH? SO NOW IT'S UP TO US.
WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME, COLONEL. IF THE BIRDS FOLLOW THEIR LAST PATTERN, WE CAN EXPECT A NEW ATTACK AT ANY TIME.
HALT

THERE'S ONLY ONE ACTION LEFT OPEN TO US. WE'LL HAVE TO TRUST THIS DOCTOR CHAP.

SHORTLY...
I HAVEN'T MUCH TIME TO WASTE. I HAVE THE CORRECT FREQUENCY TO OPERATE THE DESTRUCT MECHANISM.
GOOD LUCK, DOCTOR.


THE DOCTOR IS JUST YARDS FROM THE TARDIS, WHEN .
COME ON, YOU LUMBERING BEAST

ONCE AGAIN, THE SMALL FREQUENCY BENDING DEVICE IS USED...
NEARLY THERE.


NOW TO WORK OUT A LINK WITH THE SATELLITE

THE TIME-TRAVELLER WORKS WITH SPEED AND ACCURACY, AND SOON...
THIS WILL HAVE TO BE DONE AT CLOSE-RANGE, THAT MEANS EXACT TIMING

IF I'VE MISCALCULATED, IT'S GOODBYE DOCTOR HERE GOES...

SO I SURVIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.

THE END.

WHO'S RIP?

In the final instalment of John Ainsworth's definitive guide, he examines the last *Doctor Who* strips to feature Jon Pertwee in the pages of *TV Comic*.

THE AMATEUR

TV Comic
Issues 1148 - 1154
(15.12.73 - 26.1.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

In space, the Doctor encounters another time/space craft which he guides back to its point of origin on nineteenth century Earth. The craft's pilot is the arrogant scientist Tobias Philby, who has incurred the wrath of the local villagers who believe his experiments are the work of the Devil.

When the villagers set fire to Philby's castle, the Doctor saves the scientist and his manservant by escaping with them in the TARDIS.

Landing on a battlefield in World War I, the three time travellers are captured by the Germans and accused of being British agents. After making a narrow escape from the firing line, the Doctor and his friends cross over into British territory only to be accused of being German spies. Somehow the Doctor must convince the British of the threat of approaching German forces and return Philby and his servant to their own time in the TARDIS.

The writers of the strip had evidently decided that Arnold (from the two previous adventures *Children of the Evil Eye* and *Nova*) was not such a good idea as a travelling companion for the Doctor and he was hurriedly returned to his own time at the opening of the story.

The parallels with H G Wells' novel *The Time Machine* are fairly obvi-

ous, but unfortunately little is made of Philby's own time machine after the first instalment. It is Philby's experiences of World War I that lead him to realise that the pursuit of science also carries with it a responsibility and may not always be the wisest course to take. This simple message is clearly and repeatedly given in the final instalments of the adventure giving the excursion to the twentieth century more significance than a rather pointless time tour as had occurred earlier in the strip.

When the village rector threatens to burn down Trewtha Hall, the Doctor is fearful that the TARDIS will be destroyed in the conflagration. However, a short time later when trapped in the TARDIS by the flames, the Doctor assures Philby that the TARDIS is indestructible.

It is rather disappointing to discover that, for some reason of his own, the Doctor immediately sides with the British against the Germans. Surely the Doctor should remain detached and refuse to become involved in the affairs of the past? He even goes so far as to participate in a dog fight with German planes.

This adventure was to later be reused as a Fourth Doctor story with Tom Baker's likeness drawn over Jon Pertwee's features and was published in *TV Comic* issues 1390 through 1396.

THE DISINTEGRATOR

TV Comic
Issues 1155 - 1159
(2.2.74 - 2.3.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

The Doctor is called in by the CID to investigate a mysterious bank raid where a huge vault door has apparently disappeared along with the money. The Doctor's investigations reveal the vault to be radioactive.

The man responsible is Professor Pillbright, who is in the employ of a squad of Daleks hidden on the dark side of the moon. With a Dalek disintegrator weapon, the Professor intends to raid the Bank of England.

Quite why the Daleks are lending their technology to be used in bank raids and how it is connected with their inevitable invasion plan is never clearly explained. The resolution of the adventure is ultimately disappointing in that the Doctor resorts to simply travelling to the moon in the TARDIS and blowing the Daleks up!

IS ANYONE THERE?

TV Comic
Issues 1160 - 1169
(9.3.74 - 11.5.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

In Australia, Doctor French refuses to heed the Doctor's warnings that his new radio wave accelerator could spell disaster for Earth as well as for the alien cultures that he hopes to contact with it. With no option left to him, the Doctor resorts to sabotage but is caught before he can render the accelerator inoperable.

The Doctor's fears are borne out when the accelerator is tested for the first time. The accelerated radio transmission causes disastrous disturbances in the weather on a global scale and subsequently lead to Doctor French's own death.

The Doctor is more concerned about the fate of the planet that the transmission was directed at. Travelling to Morrax, the Doctor finds the world devastated and is taken prisoner by the surviving Morraxian people.

The Morraxian leaders vow revenge on the people of Earth and dispatch a lethal missile with the Doctor trapped on board.

This excellent story is only slightly marred in the final instalments when the action shifts from Earth to Morrax. The Morraxians themselves are rather one dimensional characters but are certainly not as bad as other aliens races which have previously appeared in the strip. The Doctor's solution to the Morraxian problem of building a 'time reverser' is a little too convenient. Nevertheless, the situation set up by the plot is an interesting one, particularly as there is no central villain.

On discovering a fence on the perimeter of Station Orion, the Doctor thinks to himself "It could be electrified. There's only one way to find out!" Alarmingly, the Doctor's way of finding out is to grab hold of the fence with his bare hands. Very scientific!

SIZE CONTROL

TV Comic
Issues 1170 - 1176
(18.5.74 - 29.6.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

The TARDIS is taken aboard a giant space vessel where the Doctor discovers

he has been taken prisoner by the Mantis, a race of giant insects. The Mantis are being pursued by their former masters, the Tyrryxians. Using their ability to control size, the Mantis shrink their ship down to the size of a microbe to avoid detection by the Tyrryxians.

The Mantis leader is convinced that the Doctor and the TARDIS may enable him to escape the Tyrryxians but the miniature Doctor has escaped into the bowels of the ship. Determined to recapture the Doctor, the Mantis leader dispatches a beetle-like creature to retrieve his prisoner.

The few good qualities that this story possesses are all diluted by the joke-shop appearance of the ridiculous Mantis and their totally clichéd actions. The Mantis leader seems to delight in ridiculing his rather dim subordinates and slapping them repeatedly across the face.

We learn that the TARDIS has a device that goes by the sophisticated name of 'forecaster' which apparently "gives early information of distant objects."

At the opening of the story the Doctor is apparently "yearning for Earth" and obviously considers it his home.

As well as the previously used oath "Exploding comets" the Doctor comes out with the previously unheard "Petrifying planets," when confronted by the Mantis leader's beetle.

To convey that the Mantis voices sounded peculiar in some way, their speech was written in lower case letters rather than the standard capitals.

An x-ray scan of the TARDIS reveals its interior to comprise of only the main control room and three other adjacent rooms.

To indicate the passage of time the ridiculous caption "Galactic minutes later," is used. Oh, very sci-fi! Similarly absurd is the caption "Awareness hits the Doctor like a disintegrating meteor." Sit and think over that one for a moment!

Abandoning ingenuity once again, the Doctor produces a convenient device that emits high frequency sound waves which he uses to shatter his glass prison.

When the Doctor meets two Tyrryxians, he asks them how he is able to understand what they are saying. To address the recurring theme of the language barrier problem was quite unusual for the strip and usually disregarded entirely.

Size Control also received the updating process at the hand of artist John Canning by having the Fourth Doctor's likeness replace the Third Doctor's when it was reprinted in *TV Comic* issues 1424 - 1430. As such, it has the dubious honour of being the last *Doctor Who* strip to appear in the regular issues of the comic.

DOOMCLOUD

Doctor Who Holiday Special (1974)
Pages: 3 - 8 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Unknown

In the TARDIS, the Doctor and Sarah Jane observe the premature formation of a galactic cyclone. The Doctor discovers that the cyclone will pass close to Earth, smothering it in a poison gas cloud.

Back on Earth, the Doctor imparts the terrible news and the Brigadier oversees emergency procedures to ensure the survival of the chosen few.

However, the Doctor suspects alien involvement and discovers the Zirconian fleet have instigated the cloud. Using a radio telescope and Earth's satellites, the Doctor plans to deflect the deadly cloud away from Earth.

Doomcloud was also included in the *Mighty Midget – Doctor Who Comic* that was given away free with the first issue of the "new look" *TV Comic* in 1976, renamed *Mighty TV Comic*. As Tom Baker had by this time taken over from Jon Pertwee as the Doctor on television this reprint was the first to have the Fourth Doctor's face drawn over the Third Doctor's. Similarly, as the rights to use the characters and likenesses of both the Brigadier and Sarah Jane Smith had lapsed, further alterations to the story were made necessary for the reprint. The Brigadier loses his moustache, gains a pair of spectacles and is renamed General Maxwell-Lennon. Sarah is given the new and dynamic name of Joan Brown but since the depiction of Sarah in the strip was so unlike actress Elisabeth Sladen anyway no alteration to the art was needed. Despite all theses changes, the Doctor still refers to 'Joan' as 'Sarah' in one panel that presumably was overlooked in the updating process.

PERILS OF PARIS

Doctor Who Holiday Special (1974)
Pages: 16 - 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Unknown

Despairing of the twentieth century and its traffic congestion, the Doctor takes Sarah Jane on a holiday to nineteenth century Paris. However, the TARDIS materialises in Paris, Texas, instead of France.

The travellers join a wagon train which is besieged by Indians. The cowboys stage a diversion and the Doctor and Sarah Jane return to the TARDIS and encounter the Indian chief, War Eagle. The Doctor overpowers War Eagle and the TARDIS travels to Paris, France, where War Eagle escapes. Worried that they have let loose a murderous savage in civilised Paris, the Doctor and Sarah Jane give pursuit.

One can only wonder as to what method the TARDIS uses to locate its destinations for it to confuse locations on the basis of identical names!

The appearance of Buffalo Bill at the conclusion of the story affords the Doctor a chance to meet yet another well known historical figure as well as providing a clever solution to his predicament.

For some bizarre reason, Sarah Jane is referred to in one caption as 'Liz'. Possibly a case of the writer or artist becoming confused between the character and actress Elisabeth Sladen who played the part on television.

WHO'S WHO?

Doctor Who Holiday Special (1974)
Pages: 40 - 47 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Unknown

At his cottage, the Doctor is running repairs on the TARDIS. Distracted by Sarah Jane, the Doctor causes the TARDIS to jump sideways in time to a parallel Earth. There they are captured by two dangerous criminals identical in appearance to themselves.

In a bid to escape from the two villains, the Doctor attempts to push the TARDIS into yet another parallel world.

It is interesting that in the parallel Earth visited by the Doctor and Sarah Jane that the alternate Doctor is evidently native to the planet. He does not recognise the TARDIS and appears to have no knowledge of extraterrestrials or space travel.

The similarities between this strip story and the 1970 television adventure *Inferno*, which also dealt with a parallel Earth, may only be coincidental. It is interesting however that in both stories, the Doctor jumps sideways in time by tinkering with the TARDIS console.

As with the other two strips in the *Doctor Who Holiday Special* (1974), the likeness of Sarah Jane is so far removed from that of Elisabeth Sladen as to be almost unrecognisable. After a recent but unsuccessful attempt to identify the strip artists in this *Special* its editor, Dennis Hooper, suggested that as the artwork was so poor, the kindest thing to do with it was to burn it!

THE MAGICIAN!

TV Comic
Issues 1177 - 1183

WHO RP!

(6.7.74 - 17.8.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

When the TARDIS lands in England's Middle Ages, the Doctor is captured by a villainous Lord Waldean de Beauvain and is imprisoned in his castle dungeon. The Doctor finds that he is sharing a cell with Haval, once the Sergeant of Arms to the real master of the castle, Lord Geoffrey, who has been usurped by his brother.

The Doctor devises a plan and the two escape but are soon imprisoned again, this time by the sorcerer Signus. The Doctor is able to revive the hypnotised Sir Geoffrey who they are imprisoned with. Constructing a glider, the Doctor enables Haval to fly from their tower prison and over the castle moat in a bid to seek help from the King's men.

In the meantime, the Doctor and Sir Geoffrey must resist an attempt by Signus to take over their bodies by mystical means.

The historical setting of this adventure may well have been inspired by the television adventure *The Time Warrior*, which had been screened earlier in the same year.

Although in many ways a purely historical story, Signus does in fact appear to posses genuine magical powers. At the very least he is able to conjure visions of true events taking place some distance away and to summon realistic images from people's minds. The Doctor's views on Signus' powers are outwardly confusing. On the one hand he appears to believe in Signus' abilities even commenting on the strong astrological position of the planets. On the other hand though, he makes a rather glib reference to parapsychology as the TARDIS departs leaving the reader in a state of confusion.

Contributing to the complexities of the story is the fact that initially, Lord Waldean is referred to as Lord Geoffrey. It is not until the appearance of his usurped brother, the real Lord Geoffrey, that Waldean is give his true name.

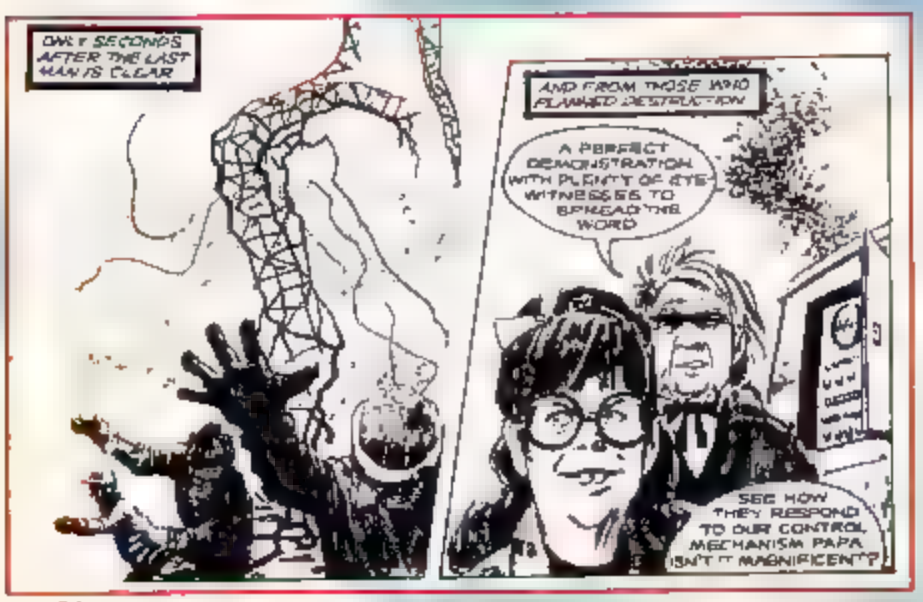
John Canning was to subsequently draw the Fourth Doctor's features over the face and body of the Third Doctor when this strip was reprinted in issues 1397 through 1403 of *TV Comic*.

THE METAL-EATERS!

TV Comic
Issues 1184 - 1190
(24.8.74 - 5.10.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

The Doctor is called in to investigate the the destruction of a television mast, apparently caused by metal-eating insects. The creatures have been bred by scientist Professor McTurk and his daughter Catriona. The two plan to use the insects to extort money out of the British government in revenge for ignoring the Professor's talents.

When the insects are released on an army firing range, their devastating attack on a tank battalion is witnessed by two foreign spies. The enemy agents trace the insects to the McTurk's farm where they shoot the Professor. Honouring McTurk's dying wish, Catriona releases the insects to wreak havoc on the world.



As the insects swarm towards Blackpool, the Doctor enlists Catriona's help to prevent them heading out to sea and the rest of the world. Only one thing can save the Earth now – Blackpool Tower!

Unsurprisingly, this story has much in common in the plot department with the similarly titled *The Metal Eaters* which appeared in *TV Comic* issues 960 through 964. On that occasion, the Doctor and Liz Shaw battled intelligent rust microbes from outer space. It is best left to the reader to decide which of the two stories is the more successful.

The dialogue in this adventure is so appalling that it is beyond belief. Lines such as "Yes, my dear daughter, I really think we have developed the strain we require", "It . . . it's incredible! They're eatin' my *helmet*! Those brutes . . ." and "Aha! So we find the miniature attackers have a master!" are only three gems out of a whole chest of treasures.

The Russian spies (though they are never actually identified as such) are total caricatures. Naturally they address everyone as "comrade" – even people that they are about to kill!

In traditional *TV Comic* style, Catriona is depicted as being bespectacled, buck-toothed, fat and ugly – presumably as a result of being so evil.

The Metal-Eaters! was later reprinted in *TV Comic* issues 1409 through 1415 with the Third Doctor's likeness being replaced by the Fourth's.

LORDS OF THE ETHER!

TV Comic
Issues 1191 - 1198
(12.10.74 - 30.11.74)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

Making a successful moon landing, the crew of the *Achilles* discover a deep cylindrical shaft that has been tunnelled into the lunar surface. On Earth, the Doctor's warnings against any exploration of the shaft are ignored. When Major Franklin disappears after descending down the tunnel, the mission is aborted. However, as the returning space capsule enters the Earth's atmosphere both it and the astronauts are turned to stone. The Doctor attributes the cause to fragments of the mineral Crunthel collected by the astronauts from the tunnel floor.

Joined by CIA agent Harry Godino, the Doctor travels in the TARDIS to the moon. There they discover that the tunnel leads to the burial chamber of a member of an ancient alien race. Trapped in the tomb, the traveller's only hope of escape is for the Doctor to make contact with the aliens – the Lords of the Ether themselves.

This intriguing story drew quite heavily on the then-recent Apollo missions to the moon. Haylock's depiction of moon shot technology is highly accurate even down to the moon rover which is very similar in appearance to one used in reality only two years previously. The *Achilles I* landing module is named *The Beagle* which almost certainly was a deliberate joke inspired by the real-life modules of Apollo's 10 and 11 which were named *Snoopy* and *Eagle*.

The Doctor tells Harry that the Lords of the Ether are in the habit of burying their dead on any old asteroid that happens to fit by their planet. The moon is apparently such an asteroid. It is more than likely that the writer of this story was unaware that this element of the plot was complimenting television script writer Malcolm Hulke's own view of the *Doctor Who* universe. In his novelisation of *Doctor Who and the Silurians*, Hulke had worked on the theory that that the arrival of the moon in Earth's orbit was the reason for the Silurians' hibernation. However, according to the Doctor in *Lords of the Ether*, the moon did not become the Earth's satellite until 2200BC which would have been considerably later than the time of the Silurians alleged habitation of the Earth.

For the first instalment of this adventure the title of the strip was still given as *The Metal-Eaters!*, the name of the previous strip. The correct title was substituted for the following week and all subsequent episodes of the story. Curiously, the Doctor refers to Harry as Joe in one panel!

WORP!

The Doctor makes great use of his "Smith" pseudonym in this adventure being repeatedly referred to as Doctor Smith by his colleagues and even air hostesses.

The petrifying mineral, crunthel, is apparently common in Galaxy 402 and is highly susceptible to changes in pressure and temperature. Quite why the Lords of the Ether leave great lumps of it lying around outside their tombs is never adequately explained. The reader can only assume that it is intended to act as a deterrent to potential invaders.

The spacesuits worn by Harry and the Doctor are identical to those worn by the characters from Gerry Anderson's *UFO* television series. Presumably this was because Gerry Haylock had drawn the *UFO* comic strip in *Countdown* prior to working on the *Doctor Who* strip.

Lords of the Ether was redrawn with the Fourth Doctor replacing the Third and was reprinted in issues 1416 through 1423 of *TV Comic*. The title was changed to *Moon Exploration*.

PETRIFIED
TV Comic Annual 1975
Pages: 50 - 54 (Duotone)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

On Zenos, the natives are frozen by a petrifying ray emitted from an invading Groob ship. The Groob leader, Parada is intent on ransacking the planet for its mineral wealth. Sent by the Time Lords, the Doctor lands on Zenos and is captured by the Groob. By tempting Parada with the ability to travel in time, the Doctor hopes to be able to free the people of Zenos and rid them of the Groob menace.

As with the civilised and cultured Raf people in *The Spoilers* strip back in *TV Action*, Haylock depicts the peace loving inhabitants of Zenos as enjoying a civilisation akin to that of ancient Greece.

THE WANDERERS
TV Comic
Issues 1199 - 1203
(7.12.74 - 4.1.75)
Pages: 22 & 23 (B & W)
Writer: Unknown
Artist: Gerry Haylock

Morun and Alto are the last surviving members of the crew of a giant spaceship. In their charge is the whole of the Thusion race who are in suspended animation. Despairing of ever finding an uninhabited world to settle on, the dying Morun revives a young man, Zeros, from his long sleep. Zeros, however, does not share Morun and Alto's qualms about subjugating the primitive race of a nearby world.

When the Doctor arrives, he saves Alto from death at Zeros's hands and attempts to use the TARDIS to transport the whole Thusion ship to another more hospitable galaxy.

This simple but interesting story bears some similarities to the then forthcoming television adventure, *The Ark in Space*, which also featured an entire race of people in hibernation.

The characterisation in this adventure was comparatively more sophisticated and subtle than in previous strips. Particularly noteworthy is the scene where Alto lies to Morun telling him that he is only weak from tiredness when in fact he knows him to be on the verge of death.

As with almost all of his recent strip adventures, the Doctor's journey takes place under the direction of his own people, the Time Lords. Very much at odds with the attitude taken by the Doctor on television, the strip Doctor appears to be more than happy to act as the agent of his Time Lord masters. He is even seen to spend several weeks in the TARDIS just waiting for a mission. When the TARDIS does finally get under way it is inexplicably buffeted about and the Doctor wonders if the Time Lords are punishing him for the events on the moon as seen in previous story. The Doctor even goes so far as to entertain the idea that the Time Lords believe that he has sinned so greatly that they intend to kill him.

In some exciting dialogue the Doctor is amazed to discover that "Not only am I moving through time but on an accelerated linear plane!" Corks! After another ordeal, the Doctor later remarks "That's three time warps, I can't stand a fourth." The reader knows just how he feels!

Curiously, when asked if he is a Time Lord, the Doctor answers "Indirectly speaking I am." Apparently having read the same book on galactic expletives as the Doctor, Zeros is heard to utter "Exploding meteors!"

Planning to transport the entire Thusion spaceship to another galaxy, the Doctor tells Alto that he will accomplish this feat by transposing the TARDIS's co-ordinates onto the controls of the spaceship. "I can't say I understand, Doctor, but I believe you," says Alto. To perform this miraculous transportation act, the Doctor removes one of the panels from the police box exterior of the TARDIS and pulls out dozens of wires and cables which he plugs into the spaceship's consoles.

The climax of the story is, to say the least, morally unsatisfying. The Doctor provides a suitable planet for the newly-revived Thusions. Conveniently he forgets that these very same people who are now thanking him recently threatened to lynch him and were prepared to commit genocide on a global scale.

The Wanderers also received the John Canning updating treatment and was reprinted in Issues 1404 through 1408 of *TV Comic*.

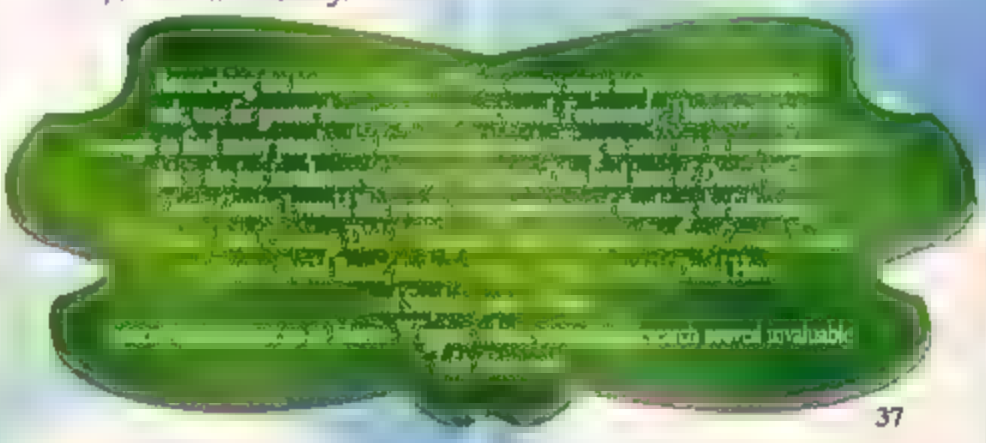
The Wanderers was to be the last adventure of the Third Doctor to appear in *TV Comic*. Concluding with the Doctor wondering if the Time Lords would allow him to return to Earth, the following issue would find him with a new face. By now, Tom Baker was already two episodes into his first adventure on television as the Fourth Doctor and it was time once again for the comic strip Doctor to follow suit.

The end of *The Wanderers* marked not only the end of the Third Doctor's comic strip era but a turning point for the strip itself. Although having returned to *TV Comic* after the demise of *TV Action*, the strip had more or less continued to maintain the standards set by *Countdown* and *TV Action* editor, Dennis Hooper. Indeed, artist Gerry Haylock had continued to illustrate the Doctor's adventures and there is every indication that the same writers, including Hooper himself, were still writing the scripts.

With the Fourth Doctor's debut strip, *Death Flower*, it was immediately obvious to the reader that Gerry Haylock did not have the same feel for Tom Baker's likeness as he had with Jon Pertwee's. *Death Flower*, the first Fourth Doctor strip, was to be Haylock's last association with *Doctor Who*. From here onwards, the writing and the artwork became extremely variable in quality. Although there were the occasional flashes of comparative brilliance, the trend was definitely a downwards one.

After a year of reprint material culled mainly from the latter day Haylock drawn strips, *TV Comic's Doctor Who* strip was cancelled in 1978. The golden age of *Doctor Who* strip adventures was at an end.

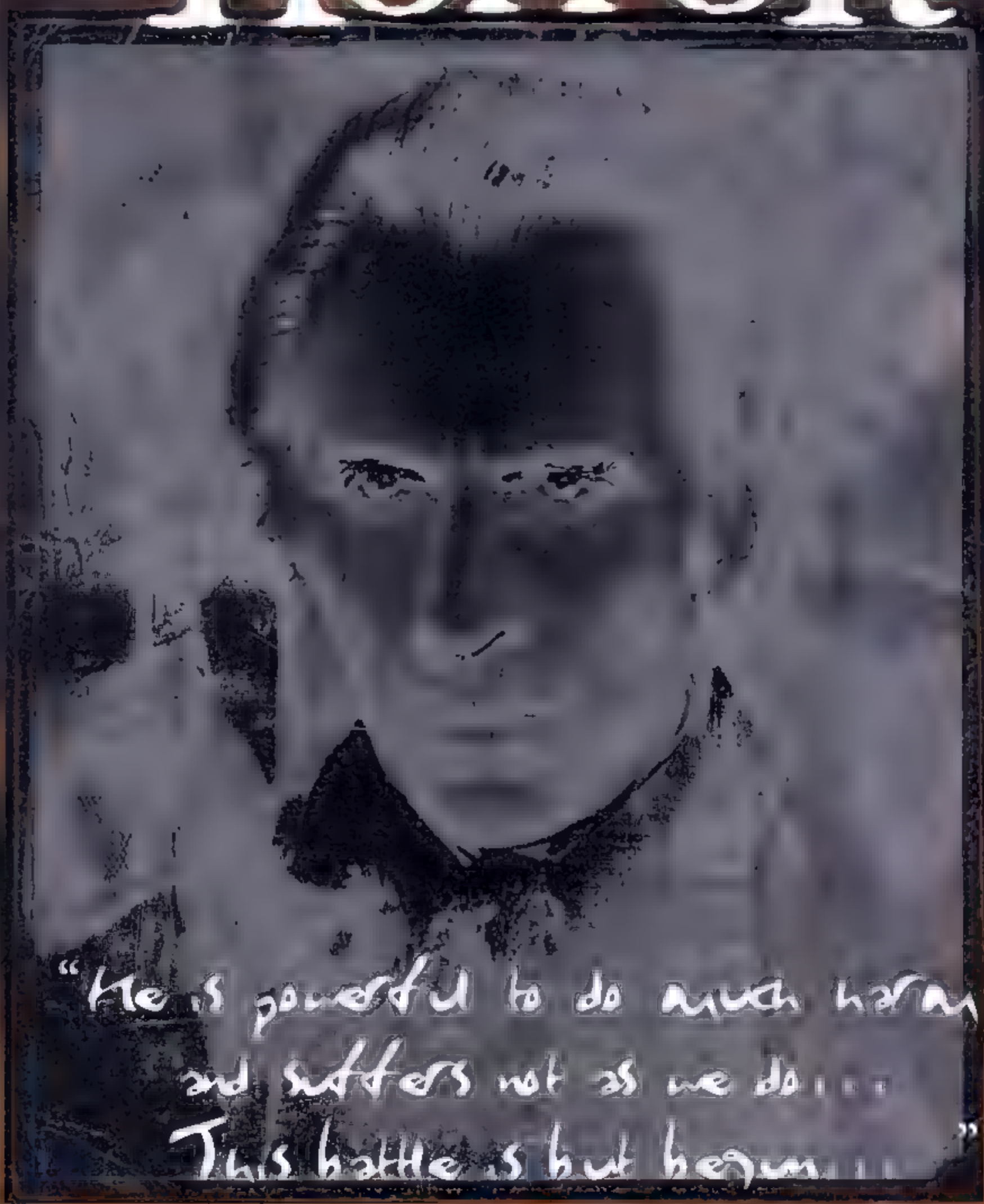
Less than a year later the phoenix would rise from the ashes when Marvel Comics UK revived the strip and gave it a whole new beginning in their new title, *Doctor Who Weekly*.



Jon Pertwee alias ('The Doctor')

The face of the mysterious ' Doctor ' doubles as that of one of radio and TV's most experienced actors. Somehow, Jon Pertwee's radio work, in such ever-popular series as ' The Navy Lark ' have combined with a talent for more serious acting. Today's Doctor is thus serious and fun-loving, with an interest in all kinds of mechanical things. The ' Jon Pertwee ' side of ' The Doctor ' also maintains a keen interest in diving and water skiing—Handy pursuits for getting out of scrapes with Cybermen and Daleks

HammeR HorroR



UNLEASHED 24th NOVEMBER

Can you find the following words in the puzzle?

AXOS
VERVOID
SUSAN
MARA
RASSILON
HIGH COUNCIL
SHERAZ JEK
DOCTOR
THAL
MELKUR
WOTAN
EOCENES
LETHBRIDGE STEWART
LINX
FENRIC
MACRA
SIL
BENTON
MORBIUS
UNIT
SUTEKH
KALED
WARGAMES
EYE OF ORION
SALAMANDER
E SPACE

U	R	D	E	Y	E	O	F	O	R	I	O	N	A	B	O	W
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C	V	O	T	B	N	E	B	U	L	B	E	A	Q	L	B	O
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K9's CONUNDRUMS compiled by Scott Montgomery

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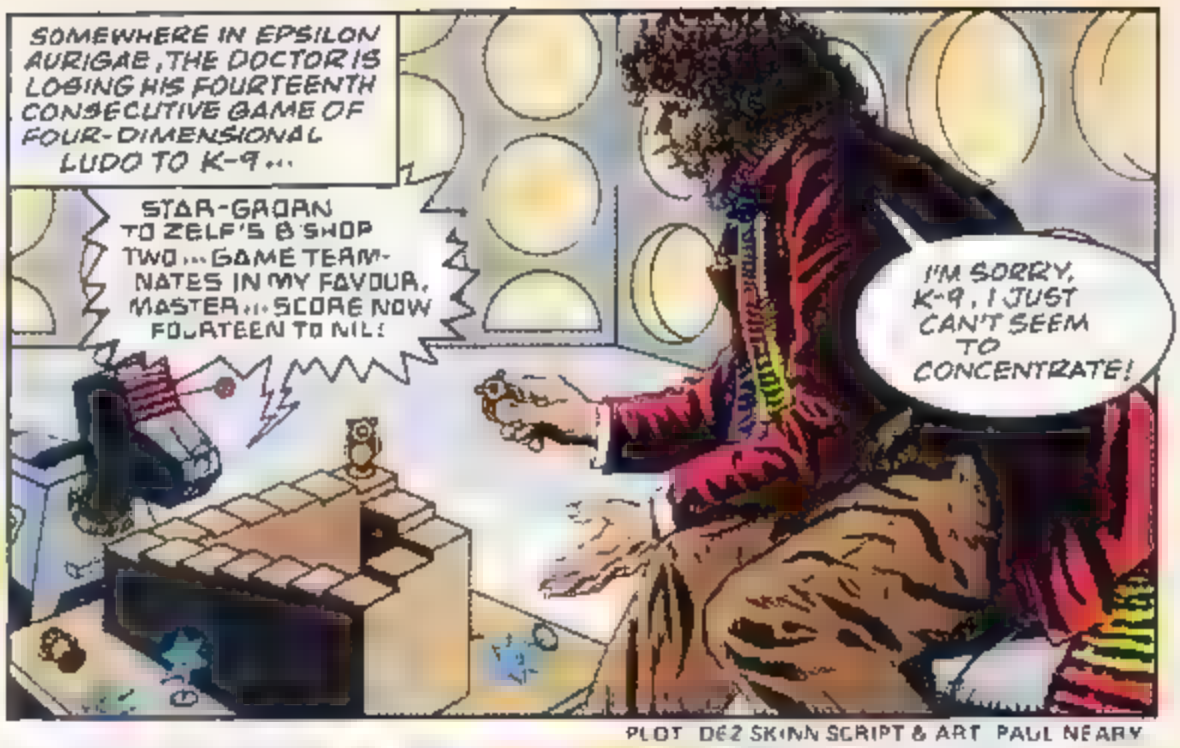
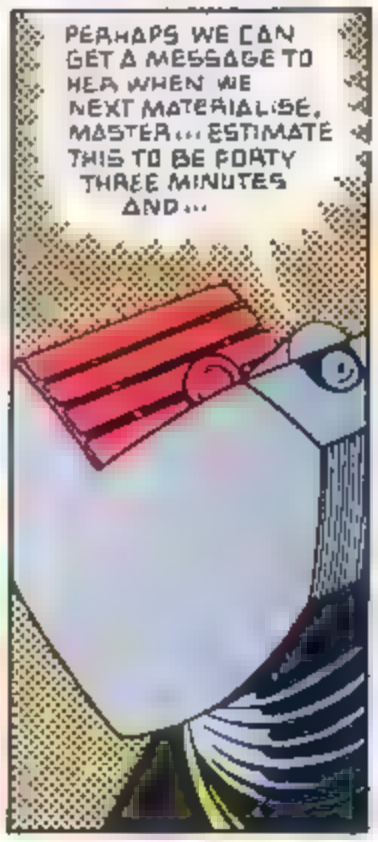
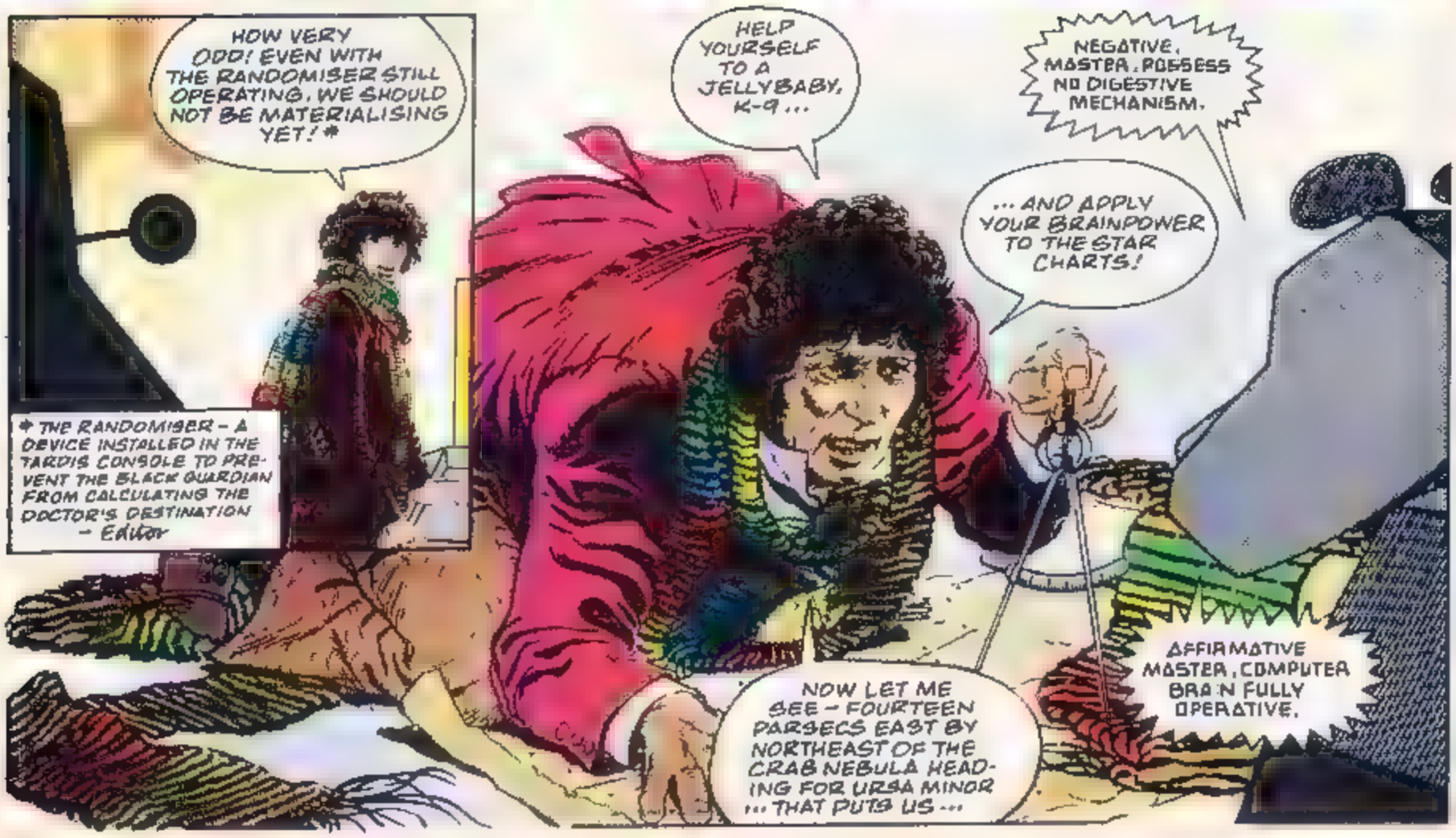
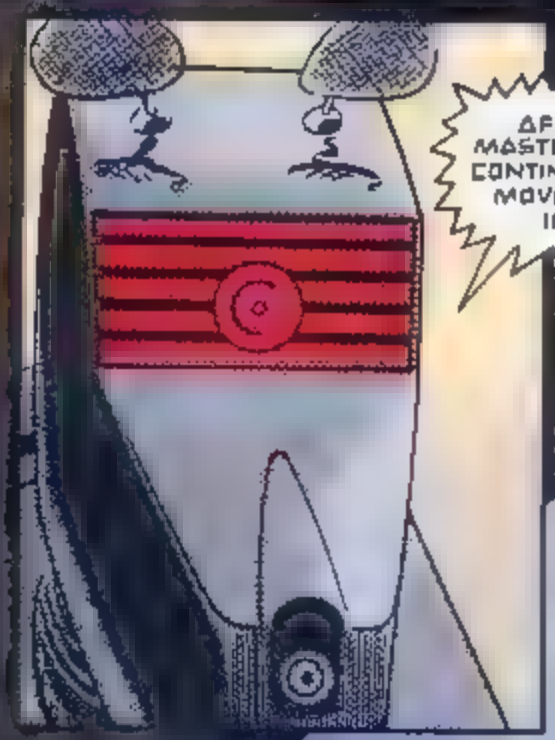


PLOT DEZ SKINN SCRIPT & ART PAUL NEARY





* THE RANDOMISER – A DEVICE INSTALLED IN THE TARDIS CONSOLE TO PREVENT THE BLACK GUARDIAN FROM CALCULATING THE DOCTOR'S DESTINATION – Editor

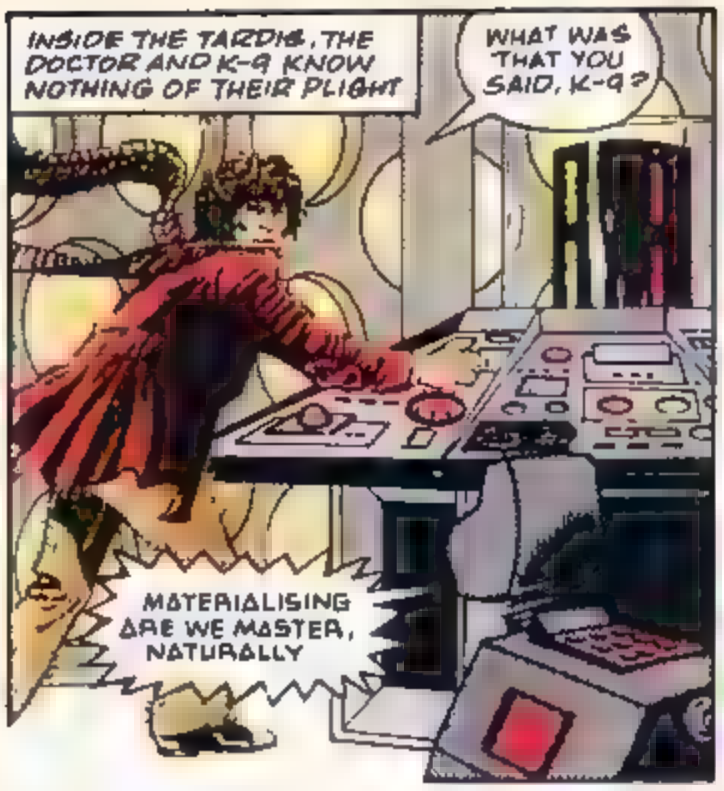


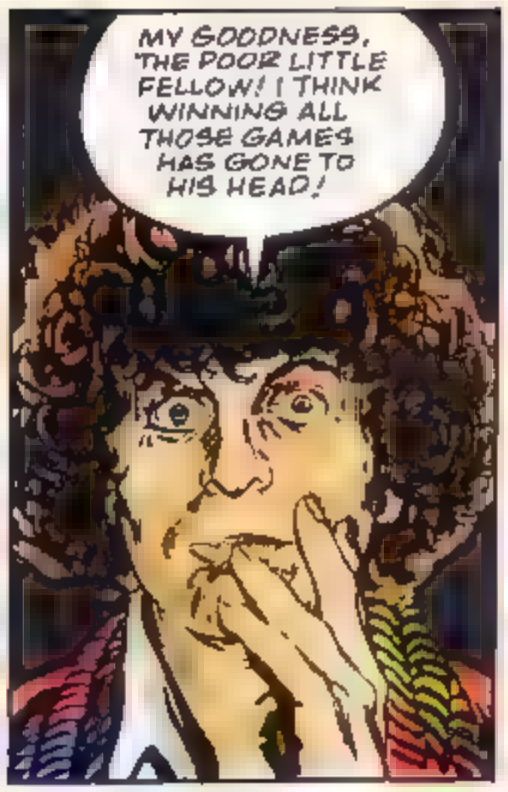
! TIME IN BACKWARDS MOVE WILL WE CONTINUES THIS IF! MASTER , AFFIRMATIVE

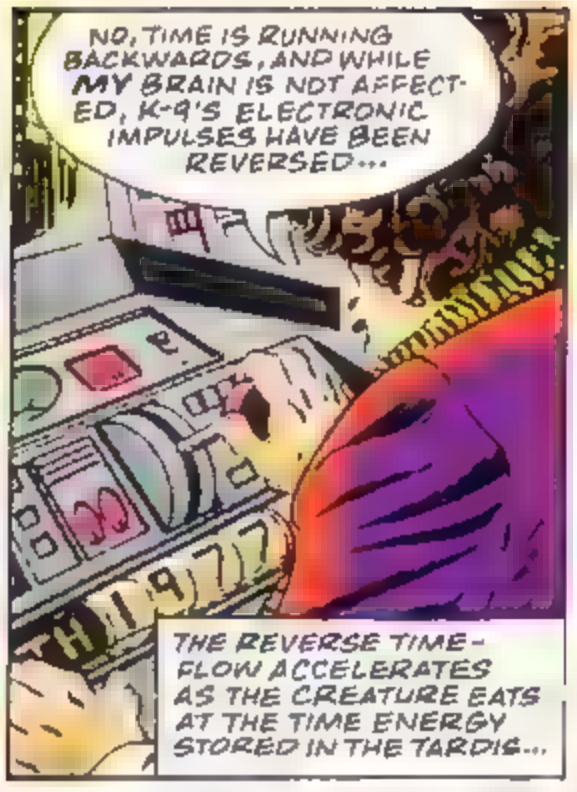
IT HAD DRIFTED INWARD FROM THE GALACTIC RIM, WHERE IT AND HORDES LIKE IT FEED MINDLESSLY ON THE GREAT REEFS OF TIME... WHERE DISTANT PAST AND FAR-FLUNG FUTURE BECOME ONE.

BUT IT WAS LOST AND WEAK AND **HUNGRY**, HUNGRY FOR TIME ENERGY.

AND SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY, CAREENING THROUGH THE VOID HAS COME... **FOOD!**


INSIDE THE TARDIS, THE DOCTOR AND K-9 KNOW NOTHING OF THEIR PLIGHT
WHAT WAS THAT YOU SAID, K-9?
MATERIALISING ARE WE MASTER, NATURALLY


MY GOODNESS, THE POOR LITTLE FELLOW! I THINK WINNING ALL THOSE GAMES HAS GONE TO HIS HEAD!

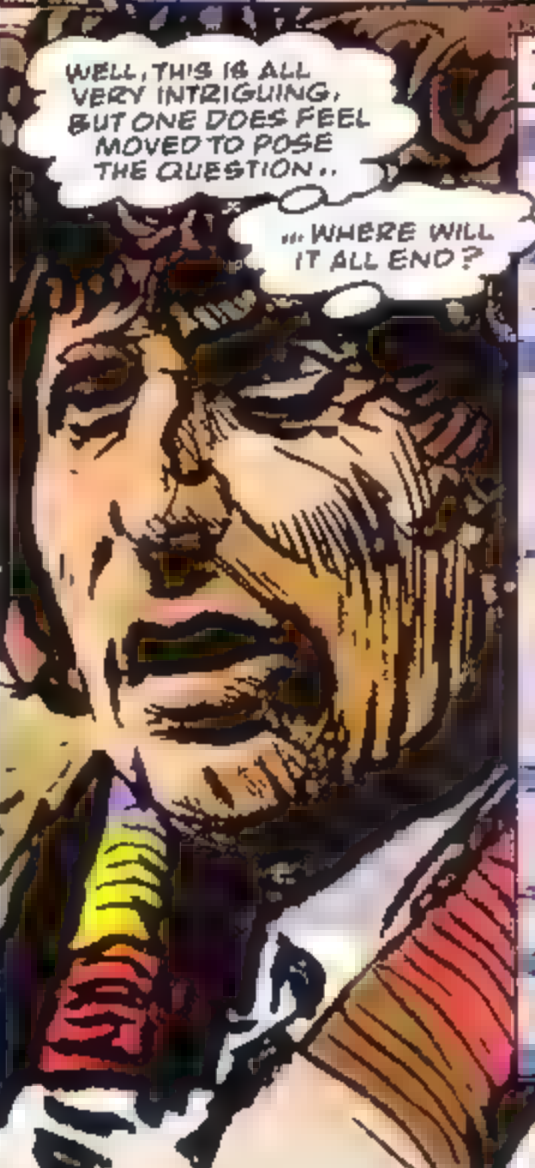

NO, TIME IS RUNNING BACKWARDS, AND WHILE MY BRAIN IS NOT AFFECTED, K-9'S ELECTRONIC IMPULSES HAVE BEEN REVERSED...
THE REVERSE TIME-FLOW ACCELERATES AS THE CREATURE EATS AT THE TIME ENERGY STORED IN THE TARDIS...

MY WORD... K-9'S... DISMANTLING?!?

... BECOMING COMPONENTS.. WE'VE REACHED THE DAY HE WAS MADE!

THE CREATURE FEEDS AND TIME ROLLS BACK...
POOR K-9! JUST A POOL OF MOLTEN METAL!

WAIT! MY FACE! MY MIND MAY NOT BE AFFECTED, BUT MY BODY IS...
I'M GETTING YOUNGER!!


WELL, THIS IS ALL VERY INTRIGUING, BUT ONE DOES FEEL MOVED TO POSE THE QUESTION..
... WHERE WILL IT ALL END?

THE CREATURE FEEDS AND GROWS STRONG...
THE MISTS OF TIME ENGULF THE DOCTOR...
HE REELS.. AND FEELS A FAMILIAR CHANGE APPROACHING..

THE TRANSFORMATION OCCURS.. AND A DRUNKEN SPRAWL OF TORMENTED VISIONS SPIRAL PAST THE DOCTOR'S CONSCIOUSNESS...
... OLD ADVERSARIES LOOM AND TAUNT, ONE TRANSFORMATION IS FOLLOWED BY THE NEXT, AGAINST A BACKDROP OF FEVERISH NIGHTMARE IMAGES!
CHANGING...
BECOMING THE DOCTOR I WAS.
... BEFORE.. I'M NOT TRAVELLING IN TIME...
... I'M TRAVELLING BACK THROUGH MY OWN EXPERIENCES!!

Stan Lee presents

DOCTOR WHO TIMESLIP

THE CREATURE GROWS STRONGER AND LARGER, WHILE EVERYTHING INSIDE THE TARDIS GROWS YOUNGER... INCLUDING THE DOCTOR WHO HAS REGRESSED THROUGH SEVERAL OF HIS FORMER INCARNATIONS!

I MUST FIND OUT WHAT IS CAUSING THIS PHENOMENON OF TIME REVERSAL...

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

IF I DON'T ARREST THIS PROCESS, I MIGHT BECOME TOO YOUNG TO HELP MYSELF!

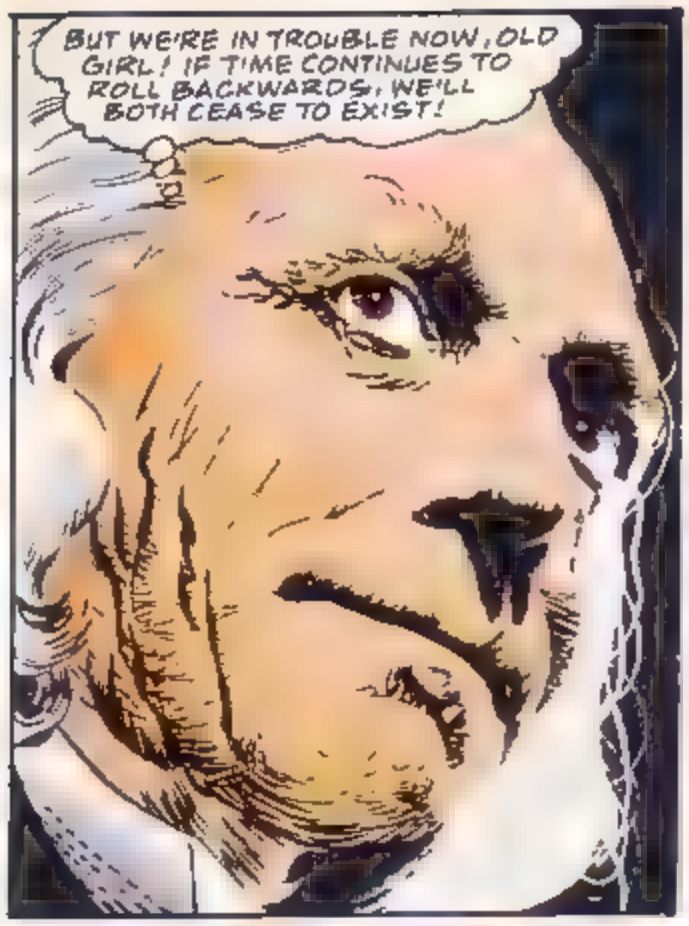
THE INSTRUMENT PANEL IS DEAD... IT SEEMS I'M HELPLESS TO DIVERT DISASTER!

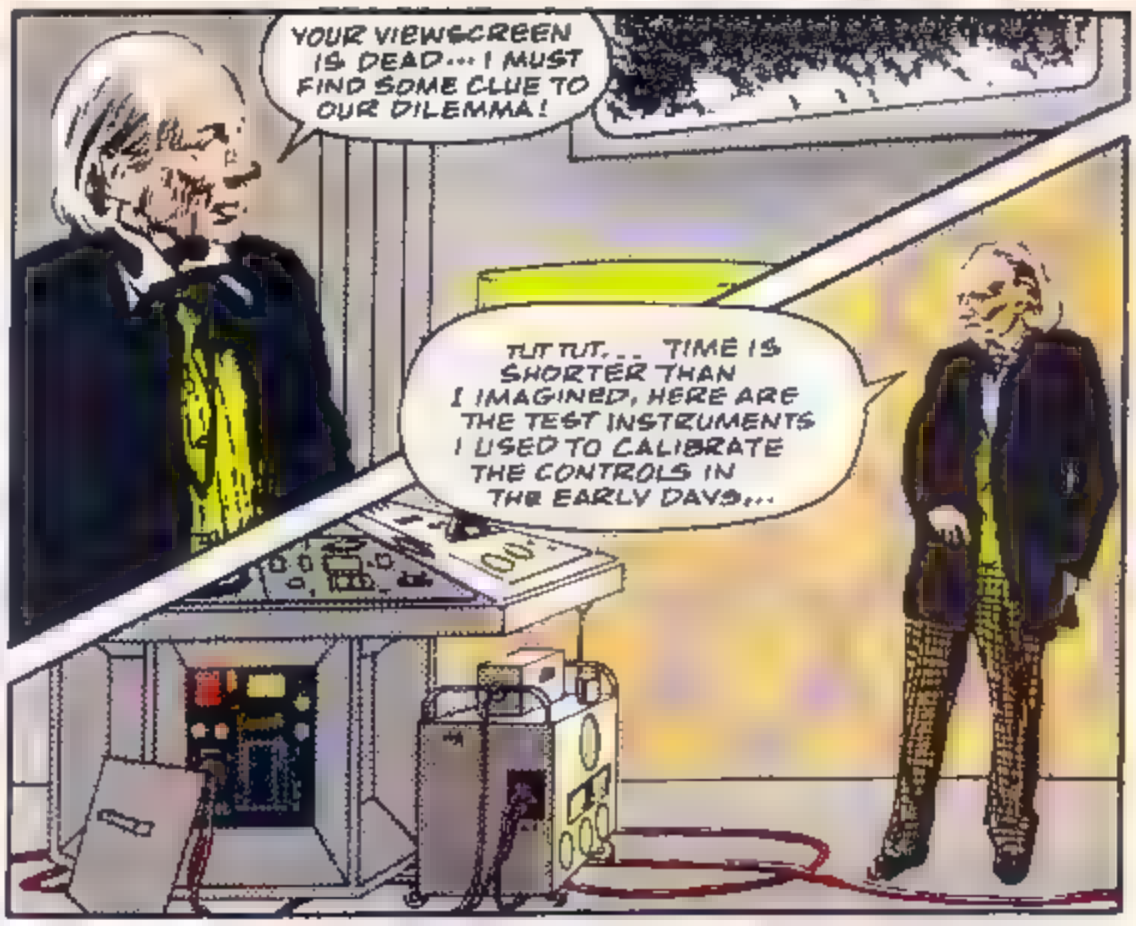
MY TARDIS... IT'S YOUNG AGAIN... AS IT ONCE WAS...

... SHINY...

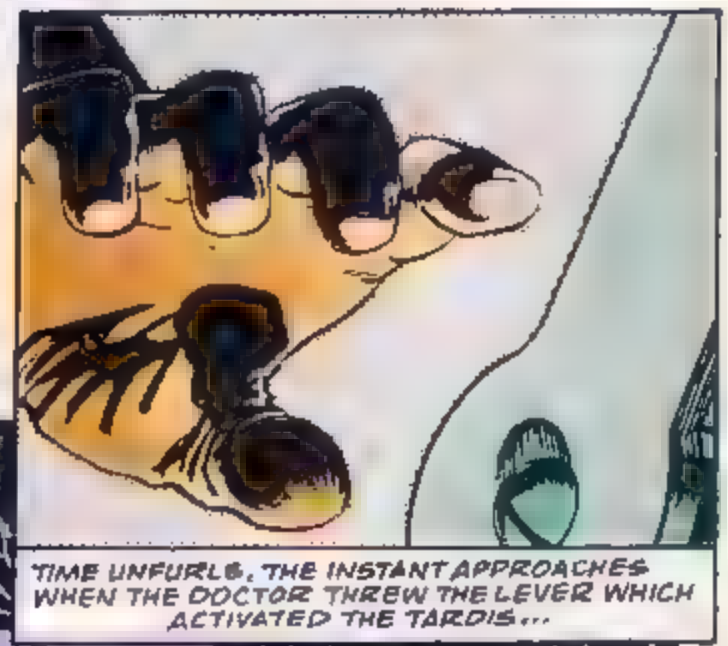
... NEW...

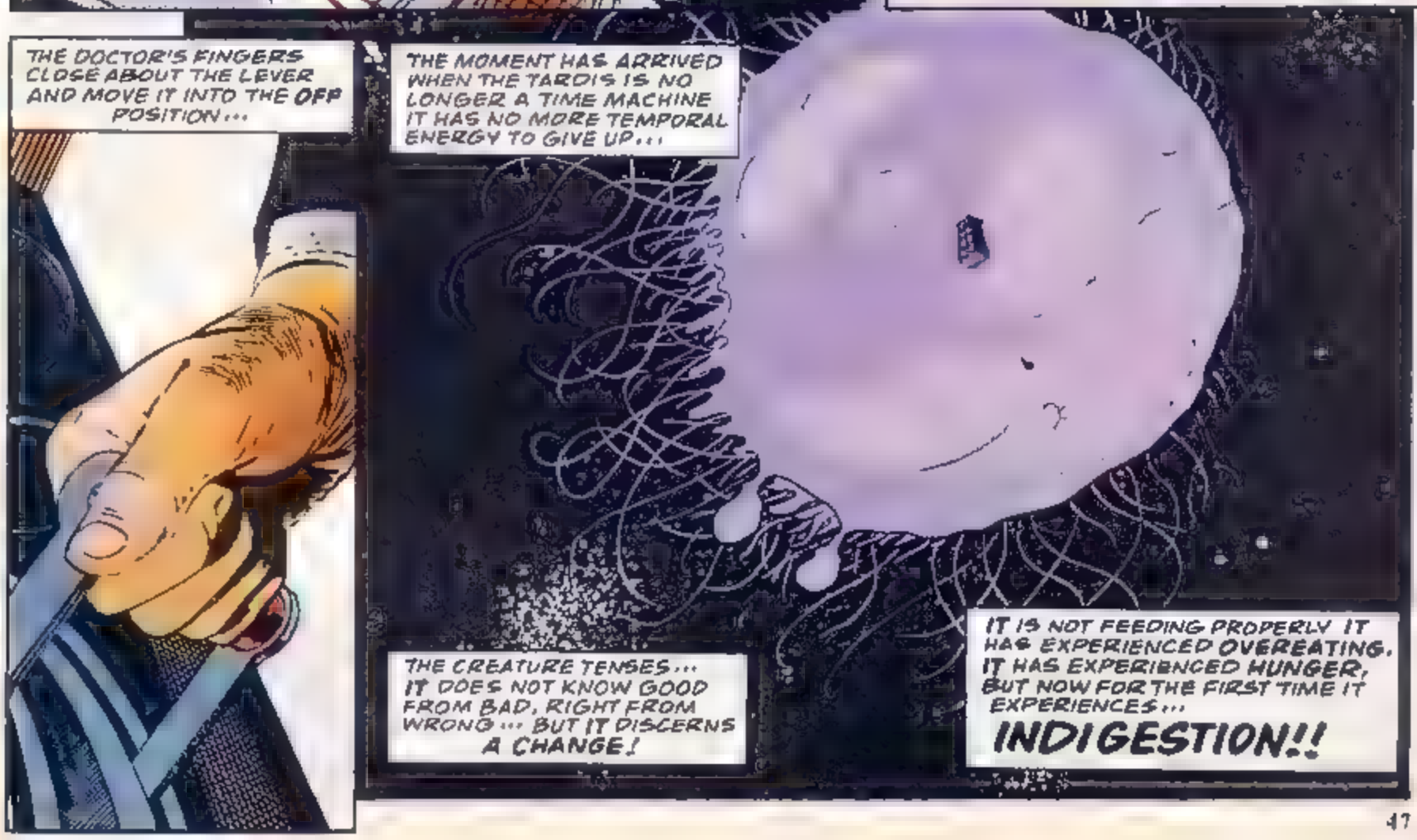
PLOT DEZ SKINN SCRIPT + ART PAUL NEARY

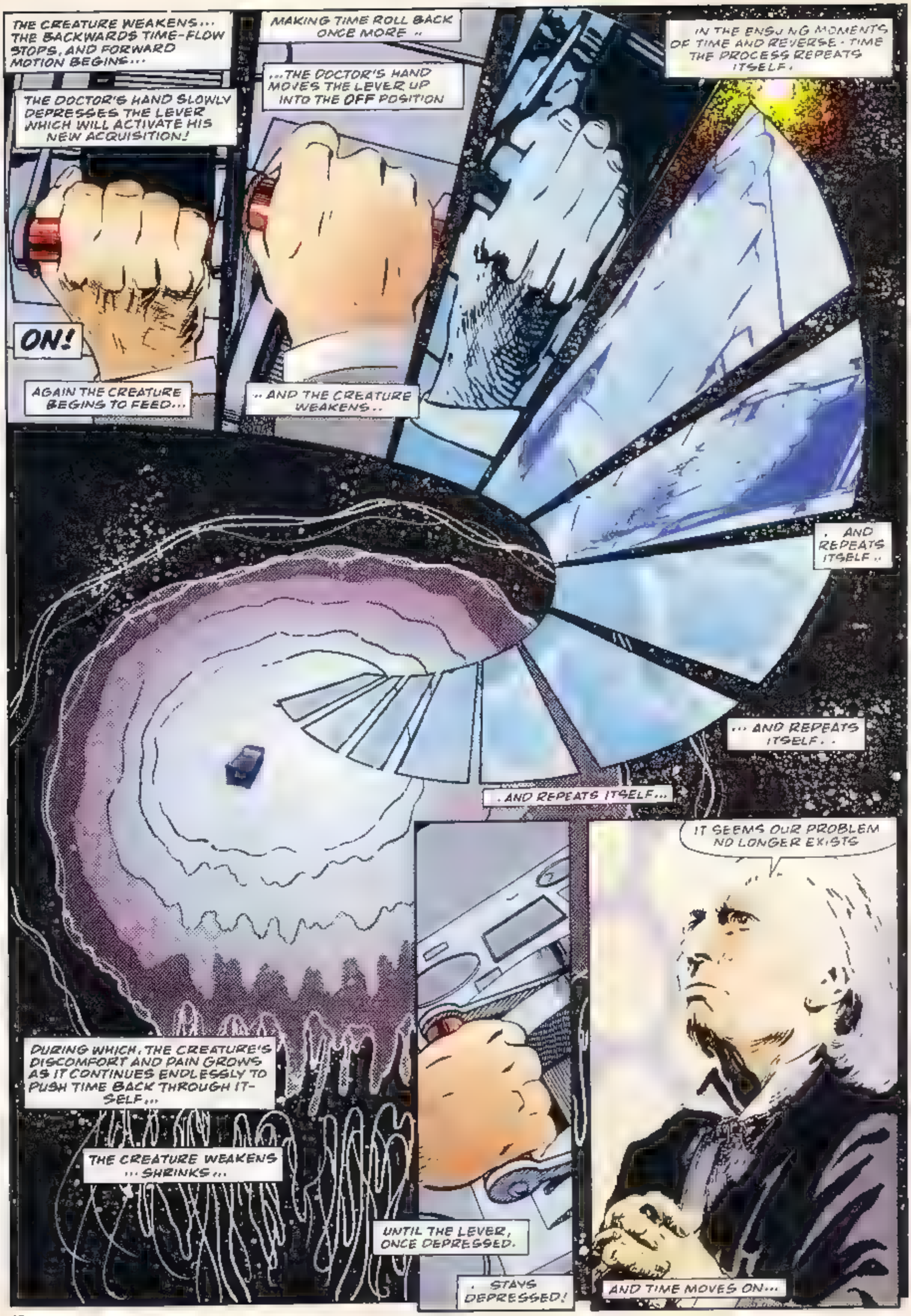

BUT WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW, OLD GIRL! IF TIME CONTINUES TO ROLL BACKWARDS, WE'LL BOTH CEASE TO EXIST!


YOUR VIEWSCREEN IS DEAD... I MUST FIND SOME CLUE TO OUR DILEMMA!
TUT TUT... TIME IS SHORTER THAN I IMAGINED, HERE ARE THE TEST INSTRUMENTS I USED TO CALIBRATE THE CONTROLS IN THE EARLY DAYS...

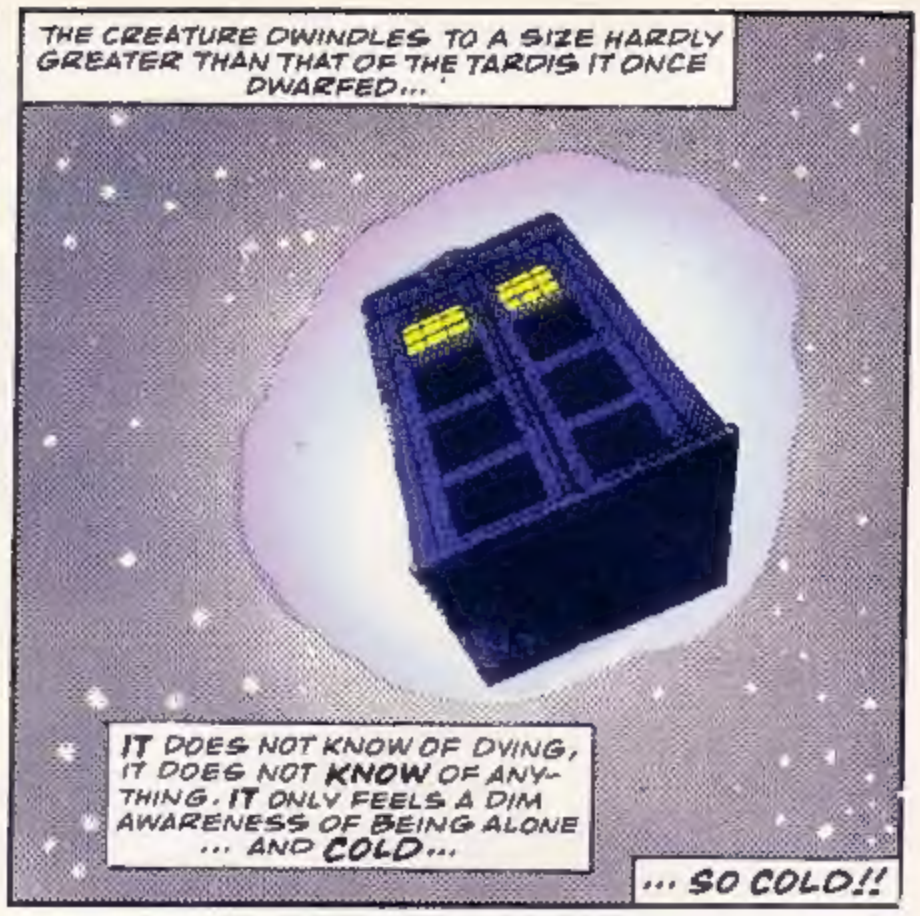
AS EVENTS UNFOLD, THE DOCTOR FEELS IRRESISTABLY DRAWN TO PERFORM THE FIRST TASK IN THE LIFE OF THE TARDIS...

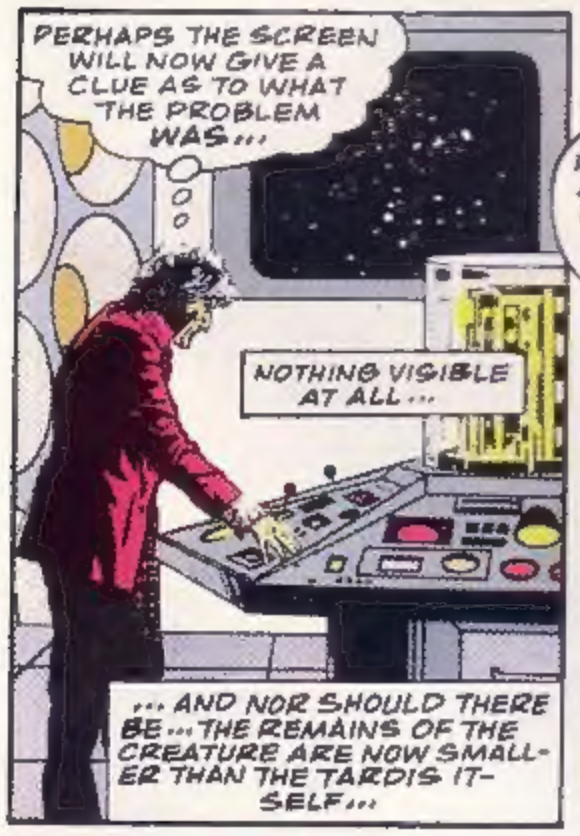

TIME UNFURLS, THE INSTANT APPROACHES WHEN THE DOCTOR THREW THE LEVER WHICH ACTIVATED THE TARDIS...


THE DOCTOR'S FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT THE LEVER AND MOVE IT INTO THE OFF POSITION...
THE MOMENT HAS ARRIVED WHEN THE TARDIS IS NO LONGER A TIME MACHINE IT HAS NO MORE TEMPORAL ENERGY TO GIVE UP...
THE CREATURE TENSES... IT DOES NOT KNOW GOOD FROM BAD, RIGHT FROM WRONG... BUT IT DISCERNS A CHANGE!
IT IS NOT FEEDING PROPERLY. IT HAS EXPERIENCED OVEREATING. IT HAS EXPERIENCED HUNGER, BUT NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME IT EXPERIENCES...
INDIGESTION!!


THE CREATURE WEAKENS... THE BACKWARDS TIME-FLOW STOPS, AND FORWARD MOTION BEGINS...
THE DOCTOR'S HAND SLOWLY DEPRESSES THE LEVER WHICH WILL ACTIVATE HIS NEW ACQUISITION!
ON!
AGAIN THE CREATURE BEGINS TO FEED...
MAKING TIME ROLL BACK ONCE MORE ..
...THE DOCTOR'S HAND MOVES THE LEVER UP INTO THE OFF POSITION
.. AND THE CREATURE WEAKENS..
IN THE ENSUING MOMENTS OF TIME AND REVERSE-TIME THE PROCESS REPEATS ITSELF.
. AND REPEATS ITSELF ..
... AND REPEATS ITSELF. .
. AND REPEATS ITSELF...
DURING WHICH, THE CREATURE'S DISCOMFORT AND PAIN GROWS AS IT CONTINUES ENDLESSLY TO PUSH TIME BACK THROUGH IT-SELF...
THE CREATURE WEAKENS ... SHRINKS...
UNTIL THE LEVER, ONCE DEPRESSED.
. STAYS DEPRESSED!
IT SEEMS OUR PROBLEM NO LONGER EXISTS
AND TIME MOVES ON...

THE CONSOLE... IT'S ALIVE ONCE MORE!
TIME WITHIN THE TARDIS MOVES ON, AND ONCE MORE, NOW FAMILIAR TRANSFORMATIONS TAKE PLACE...

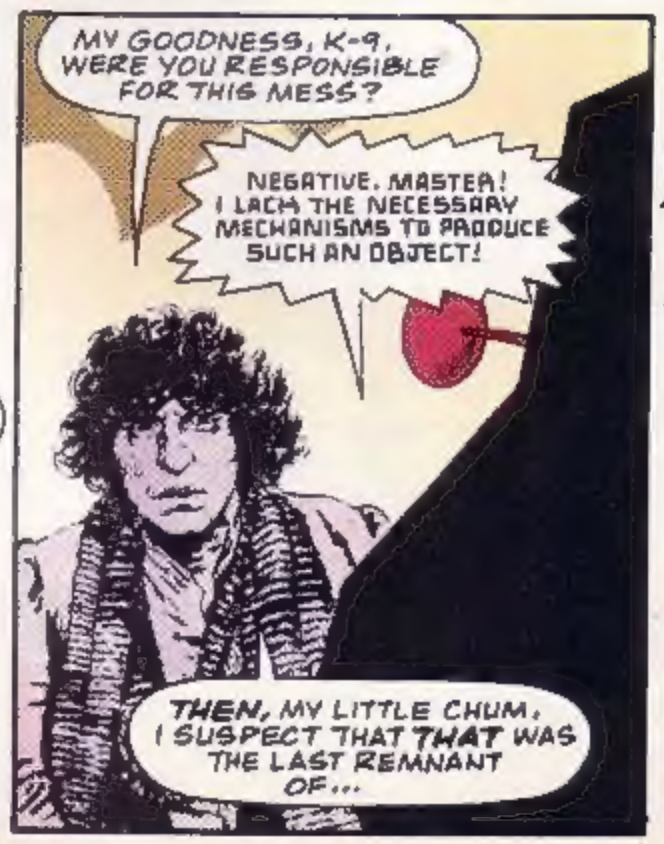

THE CREATURE DWINDLES TO A SIZE HARDLY GREATER THAN THAT OF THE TARDIS IT ONCE DWARFED...
IT DOES NOT KNOW OF DYING, IT DOES NOT KNOW OF ANYTHING. IT ONLY FEELS A DIM AWARENESS OF BEING ALONE ... AND COLD...
... SO COLD!!


PERHAPS THE SCREEN WILL NOW GIVE A CLUE AS TO WHAT THE PROBLEM WAS...
NOTHING VISIBLE AT ALL...
... AND NOR SHOULD THERE BE... THE REMAINS OF THE CREATURE ARE NOW SMALLER THAN THE TARDIS ITSELF...

AND INSIDE THE TARDIS ITSELF!
AHA! I SEE THE REDOUBTABLE K-9 IS ABOUT TO REJOIN US... I KEEP TELLING HIM HE SHOULD PULL HIMSELF TOGETHER!

NEGATIVE, MASTER... THE USE OF THE WORD 'REJOIN' INFERS MY HAVING LEFT AT SOME TIME...

BUT THAT'S JUST IT, OLD FELLOW... YOU DID LEAVE US AT SOME TIME...
FOR SOME TIME...
AND LATER, AT THE SAME TIME, YOU...
SQUE-E-LCH!


MY GOODNESS, K-9, WERE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MESS?
NEGATIVE, MASTER! I LACK THE NECESSARY MECHANISMS TO PRODUCE SUCH AN OBJECT!
THEN, MY LITTLE CHUM, I SUSPECT THAT THAT WAS THE LAST REMNANT OF...

... OUR PROBLEM.
WHAT PROBLEM, MASTER?
WELL, ONCE K-9 ... IT WAS QUITE SOME PROBLEM, BUT NOW... WHY NOW IT'S JUST NOTHING AT ALL!

THE END.

LAST WORD

All good things must come to an end, as they say, and sadly with regards to **Doctor Who Classic Comics,** that idiom is certainly true. We feel that, having finished with what are generally perceived as the very best of the Sixties and Seventies strips, this seems an ideal time to sign off. But before we go, some well deserved thanks are in order. Firstly to former **Doctor Who Magazine** editor John Freeman, whose enthusiasm got **DWCC** off the drawing board (excuse the pun) and into reality. To Stephen James Walker, Nick Briggs and Seigi Longman, whose collections of *TV Comic* proved invaluable. To Bruce Campbell for his irreplacable bound copies of *TV Century 21* without which we would have found reprinting *The Daleks*, and latterly *The Dalek Chronicles* special, nigh on impossible. To Andrew Pixley and Martin Wiggins, whose invaluable help and research aided John Ainsworth's excellent and authorative articles. Special thanks to Bill Mevin, Geoff Cowan and Dennis Hooper, all of whom were more than happy to relive their involvement in something from their past.

It's been fun and it's sad to be finishing, but there's still **Doctor Who Magazine** and specials such as **The Age of Chaos** to keep *Doctor Who* thriving in the comic strip medium in which it has thrived for more than thirty years...

We leave the last word to cartoonist Nick Miller – and the Doctor's grandchildren.

Gary Russell

"I DON'T THINK THE DOCTOR'S COMING BACK FOR US, GILLIAN".

On Sale Autumn '94

Remembering the Thirtieth Anniversary of *Doctor Who* . . .

SOPHIE ALDRED ON
DIMENSIONS IN TIME

NICHOLAS COURTNEY ON
THE PARADISE OF DEATH

KEVIN DAVIES ON
30 YEARS IN THE TARDIS

BRAND NEW FICTION FROM:

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Mark Gatiss
Andy Lane
Steve Lyons
Simon Messingham
Justin Richards
Gareth Roberts
David Rodan

plus

NEW COMIC STRIPS FROM:

Paul Cornell & John Ridgway
Warwick Gray & Charlie Adlard